

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTRY DENIES ISLANDS DISPUTE SETTLED

OW270327 Tokyo KYODO in English 0318 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO -- Japan's claim to four northern islands off Hokkaido under Soviet control since the closing days of World War II remains unchanged, a Foreign Ministry official said Friday in reference to a report that the Soviets may give up two of the four islands.

The official reiterated Japan's longstanding policy on the four disputed islands in reference to a front-page story in the leading economic daily, NIHON KEIZAI SHIMBUN, in its Friday morning editions. The article said Yevgeniy M. Primakov, head of the Moscow-based Institute of World Economics and International Relations and one of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's advisers, hinted at Soviet readiness to settle the territorial dispute by returning Habomai and Shikotan Islands to Japan. The newspaper reported that Primakov dropped the hint during his Japan visit earlier this month, referring to a 1956 Russo-Japanese declaration which paved the way for the restoration of diplomatic relations between Tokyo and Moscow.

A Foreign Ministry source with access to Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe's talks with Primakov on December 12 said Primakov did not give such a hint during the meeting. "I think it's pure speculation," said the source about the NIHON KEIZAI article.

The story in the business-oriented newspaper comes only three weeks before Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is due to arrive in Japan for an official visit, the first by a Soviet foreign minister in 10 years.

The Foreign Ministry source noted that the 1956 declaration calls for the Soviet Union to give up Habomai and Shikotan once the two countries have concluded a peace treaty the document also stipulates negotiations on the Japanese claim to the two other and bigger islands, Etorofu and Kunashiri, the source added.

Possible Nakasone-Abe Rift

HK270912 Hong Kong AFP in English 0842 GMT 27 Dec 85

[By Philippine Ries]

[Text] Tokyo, Dec 27 (AFP) -- Soviet-Japanese relations are set to become a bone of contention in Japanese politics, foreign diplomats here said after a report today that Moscow was ready to return two disputed islands to Japan. The Soviet Union is ready to woo Japan, the diplomats said after the NIHON KEIZAI business daily reported that Moscow could hand over the islands of Habomai and Shikotan to the north of the Japanese archipelago.

But the diplomats said there were growing differences between Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and his foreign minister, Shintaro Abe, over what attitude to adopt towards the Soviet Union.

Habomai and Shikotan are among four Japanese islands, called the "northern territories," that the Soviet Union occupied at the end of the World War II. Since then Japan's demand that they be returned has prevented the signing of a Soviet-Japanese peace treaty.

The NIHON KEIZAI said that one of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's senior foreign policy advisers, Yevgeniy Primakov, had recalled during a visit to Tokyo earlier this month that Moscow had pledged in 1956 to return the two islands to Japan after the signing of a Soviet-Japanese peace treaty.

Moscow retracted the pledge in 1960 when Japan and the United States signed a security pact. Moscow has since insisted that there is no territorial dispute between the Soviet Union and Japan.

Mr. Primakov's remark indicated that Moscow was likely to make concessions on the territorial issue in an effort to improve Soviet-Japanese relations, the newspaper said. A Foreign Ministry official said the report was "pure speculation."

On January 15 Eduard Shevardnadze is to become the first Soviet foreign minister to pay an official visit to Tokyo for 10 years.

Diplomats here said Mr. Nakasone was determined to achieve success in Soviet-Japanese relations, even at the cost of relaxing Tokyo's stand on the northern territories, in order to strengthen his political position here and increase his chances of an unprecedented third term as prime minister. A European analyst said Mr. Nakasone had recently repeatedly stressed the need for a "global approach" to Soviet-Japanese relations.

But Mr. Abe's outlook is different. "What does 'global negotiations' mean?" the JIJI PRESS news agency quoted a Foreign Ministry official as asking. "The question of the northern territories is not one of those that can be put in abeyance or dealt with like cultural or economic problems," said the official, who asked not to be identified.

Diplomats said the Foreign Ministry had several times expressed irritation with the "impatience" Mr. Nakasone had shown in his wish to pay an official visit to Moscow. They said Mr. Nakasone edged out Mr. Abe in joining the Japanese delegation that attended the funeral of previous Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko in March. They said Mr. Nakasone's meeting with Mr. Gorbachev -- the first Japanese-Soviet summit for 12 years -- had been regarded as a personal success for the prime minister. And Mr. Nakasone publicly announced in November -- to Mr. Abe's displeasure -- that he wished to visit Moscow.

Said a European diplomat: "There is a race to find out who will be the first to go to Moscow and whoever settles the dispute with the Soviet Union could take the honours." He also said that Mr. Nakasone wanted to go down in history as the man who drew a line under the last of his country's problems left over from the war.

For its part, the Soviet Union stands to gain finance and technology from Japan in exchange for minor territorial concessions, the diplomat added. However, Mr. Nakasone will still have to sell his plan to the Japanese public, which even after 40 years still hopes that all the northern territories will be returned.

MANSFIELD'S AID IN FISHERY TALKS FORMALLY SOUGHT

OW270427 Tokyo KYODO in English 0406 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Excerpts] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO -- Moriyoshi Sato, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, Friday asked U.S. Ambassador to Japan Mike Mansfield to help resolve a bilateral fishery problem amicably in case it affects overall relations between the two countries.

Mansfield replied during a meeting at the ministry that he himself is apprehensive about the problem, and pledged his efforts to help find a solution.

NAKASONE OPPOSITION HEADS DISCUSS DRAFT BUDGET

OW241005 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 24 KYODO -- The Japan Socialist Party Tuesday asked the government to make a 2.3 trillion yen cut in income tax as a major fiscal contribution to reflating Japan's economy, political sources said. But the proposal, which came in talks between Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone and JSP Chairman Masashi Ishibashi, was immediately rejected by the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party, they said.

Apart from Ishibashi, Nakasone also had separate meetings the same day with the leaders of all other opposition parties in a bid to seek their cooperation in compiling the new government budget for fiscal 1986.

Sources said Ishibashi, as well as other opposition leaders, voiced their objection to the 5.1 percent hike in defense spending in an otherwise austere budget draft announced by the Finance Ministry Monday. Ishibashi told Nakasone that the government should freeze defense spending at last year's level. Ishibashi also suggested that the government should secure at least 1 trillion yen in construction bonds as reserve funds to reflate the economy, the sources said.

Nakasone defended the defense budget as the minimum amount required for achieving Japan's military build-up plan set forth in 1976, they said. Ranking LDP officials present at the meeting turned down Ishibashi's tax-cut proposal, saying the government was preparing a major overhaul of Japan's tax system.

FINANCE MINISTRY APPROVES DEFENSE PURCHASES

OW271127 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO -- Finance Minister Noboru Takeshita agreed Friday to the ordering of four "patriot" surface-to-air guided missile systems, 10 P-3C antisubmarine patrol aircraft and 12 F-15 "Eagle" interceptor fighters in fiscal 1986 beginning in April next year. All are major items on the Defense Agency's shopping list for the next fiscal year, the first year of Japan's five-year defense buildup program. The agency had requested funding for four "Patriot" advanced missile systems, 12 P-3C "Orion" anti-submarine aircraft and 18 "Eagle" air superiority fighters, one of the most sophisticated warplanes presently available at the moment. Agreement was reached during talks between Takeshita and Koichi Kato, state minister in charge of the Defense Agency.

The Maritime Self-Defense Force (MSDF) will have 25 P-3Cs by the end of the current fiscal year and the additional fleet of 10 antisubmarine aircraft is expected to build up Japan's sealane defense capabilities substantially as requested by the U.S. Government of President Ronald Reagan.

A senior agency official described the proposed fiscal 1986 budget as "not bad" for the first year of the five-year defense buildup program. Earlier this week, the Finance Ministry agreed to raise Japan's defense outlays 5.1 percent, higher than a 3 percent hike in the overall national budget but lower than the minimum 7 percent raise in national defense spending proposed by the agency. Japan's defense budget rose 6.9 percent for the current fiscal year, compared with a 3.7 percent growth in the state budget as a whole. The 1985 budget drew positive reactions from the U.S. Government but angered Japanese opposition parties.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON KANG SONG-SAN'S VISIT TO USSR

Talks with Ryzhkov

SK260448 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1525 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow December 24 (KCNA) -- Talks began at Kremlin on December 24 between Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union.

Present at the talks on our side were Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and vice-premier and chairman of the External Economic Commission; Choe Chong-kun, minister of foreign trade; Chong Song-nam, minister of foreign affairs; An Pong-ki, vice-chairman of the State Planning Commission; Kim Chong-u, vice-minister of external economic affairs; and Kwon Hui-kyong, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Present on the Soviet side were Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee of the Soviet Union; Boris Aristov, minister of foreign trade; Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations; Mikhail Kapitsa, vice-minister of foreign affairs; V.P. Lakhtin, vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee, and Nikolay Shubnikov, Soviet ambassador to Korea.

Discussed at the talks were the relations between the two countries and some immediate international problems of mutual concern. The talks dealt with a wide range of questions of further expanding and deepening the relations between Korea and the Soviet Union.

Satisfaction was expressed at the talks over the dynamic development of the cooperation between the two countries in the spirit agreed upon at the top-level meeting held in Moscow in May 1984. And reaffirmed there was the common desire to continue to develop the DPRK-USSR cooperation on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, in conformity with the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance between the DPRK and the Soviet Union and in the interest of the Korean and Soviet peoples and all the socialist countries.

The two sides reached identity of views on the fact that tensions and distrust remain in the world, above all, because of the aggression policy of the imperialist circles.

Our side expressed solidarity with the constructive and consistent line of the Soviet Union for returning to international detente, curbing the arms race, nuclear arms race above all, and not allowing the militarization of space and expressed approval and support to the Soviet stand at the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva which is of weighty importance for the improvement of the international situation and consolidation of peace.

UNC COUNTERPROPOSES MAC MEETING ON 3 JANUARY

SK270047 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The U.N. Command (UNC) yesterday counterproposed that the 432nd meeting of the Military Armistice Commission be held on Jan. 3, 1986. The counterproposal was made in reply to a north Korean proposal on Dec. 20 that the meeting be held yesterday (Dec. 26). It was not known why the North Korean side demanded the meeting.

SOLUTION SOUGHT TO ASSEMBLY VIOLENCE ISSUE

SK270033 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] National Assembly Speaker Yi Chae-hyong said yesterday that he will make efforts to obtain a political settlement of the investigations into the so-called floor violence. Yi made the pledge, while meeting with a delegation of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party, which called for him to cooperate in negotiating a solution to the issue.

"I do not know whether my efforts will be successful, but I think I can hardly sit back. Legally speaking, I, the speaker, can't do anything about summonses (served on opposition lawmakers and their secretaries)," he said. The violence should, however, be regarded as a happening during an Assembly meeting, and should be settled from that standpoint, he stressed. Calling for prudence in handling the issue, Yi said that the police alone cannot take care of the issue.

"I have already told Minister of Justice Kim Song-ki to give political consideration to the issue, and I know he understood my message very well," the speaker said. Yi said that he does not look upon the booking of six more opposition lawmakers for investigation as an aggravation of the issue. "I guess that the action is clerically designed to wrap up probe into the issue," he said.

The NKDP delegation told the speaker that the incident should be handled by the Assembly itself, in that it occurred in the Assembly building. A group of NKDP lawmakers and their secretaries broke into an Assembly conference room Dec. 2 in protest against the ruling party's settlement of the budget and tax bills. In a brief commotion that followed, some ruling lawmakers were manhandled by opposition legislators and their secretaries. The five-member delegation asked the speaker to call for an immediate halt in the investigation into the so-called floor violence. The delegation also said that the violence stemmed from the allegedly abnormal settlement of the budget and tax bills.

It consisted of three party vice presidents -- Yi Chong-chae, Yi Ki-tae and Kim Su-han -- and floor leader Kim Tong-yong and secretary general Yu Chi-yon.

Following his meeting with the opposition delegation, Speaker Yi telephoned the minister of justice, saying, "I wish you would settle the issue before the end of the year so that a cheerful political atmosphere may be revived." In reply, the minister explained that the booking of six more NKDP lawmakers is not aimed at further deteriorating the political situation but concluding it as soon as possible.

In a related development, the floor leaders of the ruling Democratic Justice Party and the opposition NKDP met to negotiate a settlement of the issue.

NKDP floor leader Kim demanded an immediate release of those arrested in connection with the floor violence. DJP floor leader Yi Se-ki, however, said that the opposition party should first give assurances that it will never repeat the same act. The two floor leaders are likely to meet again to continue negotiation.

The NKDP plans to make a final decision today on whether to take legal countermeasures against the police investigation and summonses. The opposition-envisioned counter-measures include lodging a complaint against five ranking DJP officials and introducing an impeachment motion against the ministers of justice and home affairs. But political observers said the case is likely to be settled in one way or another by the end of the year, because the two parties do not want to aggravate their bilateral relation.

YI MIN-U STRESSES DIALOGUE, MUTUAL TRUST

SK260051 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 25 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The leader of the main opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NDP) said yesterday that the restoration of mutual trust between the rival political parties through dialogue is essential to tackling the current political strains.

Rep. Yi Min-u, president of the largest opposition party, reaffirmed his party's stance to solve all kinds of issues through dialogue with the ruling camp. In a year-end press conference, Yi told reporters that he is ready to meet with the ruling party's leader at any time, only if it is deemed conducive to the solution of the present political row. Yi noted that the rival parties can find a breakthrough to the current political deadlock through meetings between representatives of the ruling and opposition parties. However, he stressed that the top leaders' meeting of the rival parties will be possible only when the ruling Democratic Justice Party takes a more flexible attitude.

He then noted, "What is most important at present is for the rival parties to restore the mutual trust."

NDP head Yi painted a rosy picture about the prospects of solving the question concerning the formation of an Assembly ad hoc panel on the constitutional revision, through dialogue with the ruling camp. Yi emphasized that both the ruling DJP and the government should have a correct view of the current political situation and then display wisdom to solve the current political quandaries. He also pledged his party's plan to mount a signature-collecting campaign for the constitutional amendment, beginning next year. He said, "the signature-collecting drive is needed to help a struggle within the parliament toward the constitutional revision."

Yi's press conference, which lasted for about one hour, covered a wide spectrum of state affairs from political to economic and the livelihood of the law-income people.

As to the rumor about the disbandment of the Assembly next April, Yi said, "The dissolution of the House would not solve the problems. I believe that the ruling party will not do so." He went on, "If they (the DJP) disband the House, it will only result in the enlargement of the opposition force in the next election and further fan up the people's ardent desire for democracy."

Yi also noted that if the NDP and the dissident groups, including the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, would combine their strength, they could easily collect signatures from 10 million people for the constitutional revision during the next year, as they planned.

Yi also went on that Kim Yong-sam's entry into the NDP will bring no change to the current situation of the NDP.

NKDP TO REPLACE CHAPTER HEADS TO PROMOTE CAMPAIGN

SK270013 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The main opposition New Korea Democratic Party plans to replace the heads of about 20 local chapters who failed to enter the National Assembly in the previous election with incumbent lawmakers by the end of next month. To be named new chapter chairmen are those who joined the party after the election. The party seeks to strengthen the organization of its chapters by changing the chairman for the effective promotion of the campaign to collect signatures from 10 million people for constitutional amendment, party officials said. To be replaced are those who did not run in the election or who showed poor results in the election and are judged to have no chance of success in the next election, he said. About 30 lawmakers who defected to the party from other parties after the election are strongly calling for their appointment as chairmen of local chapters. They threatened to leave the party if their demands are not met.

OPPOSITIONISTS ACCUSED OF INCITING UNREST TRIED

SK270050 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 27 Dec 85 p 8

[Text] The trial for seven opposition figures accused of inciting campus unrest was held at a Seoul courtroom yesterday. But the session lasted only about 15 minutes as the presiding judge set the next trial for Jan. 23 next year at the request of defense attorneys. During the hearing, Judge Pak Il-hwan of the Seoul District Criminal Court checked the identities of the seven defendants as a formality before the start of a trial.

The defendants include Reps. Pak Chan-chong and Cho Sun-hyong of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party (NKDP) and Kim Pyong-o, vice secretary of the Council for Promotion of Democracy. The seven were indicted on charges of inciting campus disturbances by attending rallies either at Korea University on Sept. 6 or at Seoul National University on Nov. 25.

From the outset of the trial, lawyers asked for the postponement of the trial, saying they needed more time to prepare themselves. Three NKDP lawmakers, including party president Yi Min-u, watched the proceeding along with five CPD officials. The council is co-chaired by Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung.

USSR JUSTICE MINISTRY DELEGATION LEAVES 23 DEC

BK250616 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1128 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 24 -- A delegation of the Soviet Ministry of Justice, led by Deputy Minister N.A. Ossetrov, left Phnom Penh Monday [23 December] after a weeklong visit to Kampuchea. It was seen off at Pochentong Airport by Kampuchean Deputy Justice Minister Chem Snguon, and Soviet Ambassador Y.I. Razdukhov.

While in Kampuchea the delegation met with Kampuchean Deputy Justice Minister Chem Snguon. It visited the mass graves at Cheung Ek and people's court in Kandal Province, the Tuol Sleng museum of genocide, the former royal palace, the Kampuchea-USSR Friendship Technical College, the administrative and juridical school in Phnom Penh, a textile mill at Russey Keo in a northern suburb of Phnom Penh, and the Angkor Wat temple in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province.

'PRESS COMMUNIQUE' ON SRV BORDER DELIMITATION

BK271154 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Unattributed "press communique" -- date not given]

[Text] Cambodia and Vietnam, both desiring to ceaselessly consolidate and develop their special relations, on 20 July 1983 concluded a treaty on the principles for a settlement of border problems between them with the aim of building a common border of lasting peace and friendship. As soon as this treaty took effect, a joint committee for national border delimitation was set up. It discussed all problems relating to border delimitation, agreed on the land border on the basis of respect for the border in existence, arrived at an agreement on the principles for the settlement of the borderline on historical waters, and drafted a treaty on national border delimitation between the two countries.

On 27 December 1985 in Phnom Penh, capital of the PRK, Foreign Minister Hun Sen, as representative plenipotentiary of the PRK Council of State, and Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach, as representative plenipotentiary of the SRV Council of State, signed a treaty on national border delimitation between Cambodia and Vietnam. This is a new development of the special relations between Cambodia and Vietnam and a vivid expression of the determination of the two parties and states in the settlement of border problems on the basis of equality, full respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity, and proletarian internationalism.

The signing of the treaty on the delimitation of the Cambodian-Vietnamese border following the completion of the border demarcation and the setting of border markers between Vietnam and Laos will further strengthen the bonds of militant solidarity of the Cambodian, Vietnamese, and Lao peoples.

PAPER NOTES IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL DEFENSE DUTY

BK251018 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2300 GMT 24 Dec 85

[PRACHEACHON editorial: "The Whole People Must Emulate in Building the Army and Consolidating National Defense"]

[Text] Our Army is born out of the people, fighting actively for the cause of the people and for an independent and peaceful Cambodian fatherland advancing toward socialism.

A delegation of the party, the front and mass organizations headed by Mean Sam-An, member of the party Central Committee and president of the Association of Revolutionary Women of Kampuchea, called on Vietnamese combatants hospitalized in the city.

Other delegations, representing public offices and respectively led by Pen Navut, candidate member of the party Central Committee and minister of education; Kong Sam-Ol, minister of agriculture; Nguon Pen, deputy minister of finance, visited army hospitals in the city and an invalids center at Kien Svay, Kandal Province.

Films on the Vietnamese Army have been screened under the joint auspices of the Ministry of Information and Culture and the Vietnamese Embassy.

The Ministry of Education observed the event with a meeting at the "Phnom Don Penh" senior-high school, where results of a quiz on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam were announced.

On the same occasion, Vietnamese Military Attaché Vn... appeared on a televised interview during which he spoke of the struggle for national independence, freedom in Vietnam and of their internationalist obligations to the people of Kampuchea and Laos.

Heng Samkai Attends Get-together

BK260749 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 0430 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] A solemn get-together was organized at the theater hall of Svay Rieng Province recently to mark the 41st founding anniversary of the VPA -- 22 December 1944-22 December 1985. Attending on that occasion were Comrade Heng Samkai, member of the KPRP Central Committee and secretary of Svay Rieng Province's Provisional Party Committee, and several cadres, party members, and representatives of mass organizations, offices, and units in the province as well as many representatives of the National Defense Militant Workers. In particular, Comrade (Nguyen Van Ly), representative of the Vietnamese Army experts group attached to Svay Rieng Province, and several Vietnamese experts in the province were present.

On that occasion, Comrade Mrs Duong Vanna, member of the province's Provisional Party Committee, chairman of the provincial mass organizations, and chairman of Svay Rieng Province's Cambodia-Vietnam Friendship Association chapter, took the floor to express warm congratulations to the Vietnamese people and Armed Forces on the 41st founding anniversary of the VPA and stressed the development of the bonds of solidarity and all-round cooperation between the Cambodian and Vietnamese peoples, especially between Svay Rieng Province and her Vietnamese sister province of Long An. She expressed gratitude to the Vietnamese party, Government, Army volunteers, and experts for giving all kinds of support and assistance to the Cambodian people in their national reconstruction and defense cause, and pledged to always learn from these examples of noble heroism and to treasure the special solidarity between Cambodia and Vietnam.

Comrade (Nguyen Van Ly), on behalf of the Vietnamese experts, expressed warmest thanks to the party, revolutionary power, mass organizations, and inhabitants of Svay Rieng Province for the attention and facilities accorded the Vietnamese Army volunteers fulfilling their proletarian internationalist mission in Cambodia. He affirmed that the whole Vietnamese party, Government, Army, and people pledge to support and to make all kinds of sacrifices for the socialist revolution of our two nations.

Report on Siem Reap Meeting

BK240931 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 21 Dec 85

[Text] At 0830 on 21 December, at the Friendship Festival Hall of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, the permanent committee for organizing national and international meetings and festivals, in cooperation with the Defense Ministry and the Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Provincial party committee and state authorities, organized a solemn meeting to mark the 41st anniversary of the fraternal Vietnamese People's Army. Honoring this solemn meeting on the Cambodian side were Comrade Chan Seng, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and member of the party Central Control Commission; Comrade Kong Korm, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy foreign minister; Comrade Sam Sundoeun, member of the party Central Committee, member of the Provisional Committee of the Cambodian People's Revolutionary Youth Union, and chairman of the Central Committee of the Cambodian People's Revolutionary Youth Association; Comrade Hul Savoan, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the 4th Army region; Comrade Mean Sam-An, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Cambodian Revolutionary Women's Association; Comrade Neou Sam, alternate member of the party Central Committee, secretary of the party Provisional Committee and chairman of the Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey provincial people's revolutionary committee; Comrade Say Siphon, alternate member of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Meas Kroch, deputy defense minister; Comrade Min Khin, deputy general secretary of the KUFNCD National Council; and Comrade Chhuk Chhim, vice chairman of the Cambodian Revolutionary Women's Association and vice chairman of the PRK-SRV friendship association.

On the Vietnamese side were: Comrade Ngo Dien, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the SRV to Cambodia; Comrade Major General (Do Quang Hung), head of the 479 command post; and Comrade Colonel Vu Nha, Vietnamese military attache to Cambodia. Also honoring the meeting were leading comrades from various state institutions, the front, mass organizations; delegations from the 4th Regional Army and the Vietnamese Volunteer Army; cadres and personnel from various services in the province; and schoolchildren and many representatives from police units, the masses, clergy, and ethnic minorities.

After the meeting listened to the two countries' national anthems and payed homage to the spirit of heroic Vietnamese and Cambodian combatants who have sacrificed their lives for the cause of revolution and socialism, Comrade Hul Savoan, member of the party Central Committee and head of the 4th Army region, made a speech stressing that:

[Begin Hul Savoan recording] In an atmosphere of close militant and proletarian solidarity, we are holding this meeting to mark the 41st anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army. It is an atmosphere in which the entire Cambodian Army and people throughout the country, generally speaking, and in particular the army and people in Siem Reap and Battambang Provinces, have scored resounding victories along the Cambodian-Thai border. These victories have created favorable conditions for our armed forces and people. In the past 41 years -- a short period -- under the astute and experienced leadership of the CPV and the beloved and respected chairman Ho Chi Minh, the Vietnamese people have gone through very trying and dangerous times and have reached the apogee of their history. They have become masters of their own destiny. During the past 41 years, under the astute leadership of Marxism-Leninism, conditions have been created for the setting up of powerful Vietnamese forces to defeat two most powerful imperialist forces, those of France and the United States. The Vietnamese people's forces also for the first time defeated the Chinese hegemonists' greedy ambitions. During the past 41 years, the Vietnamese people have shown their will to struggle and make sacrifices and to refuse to accept the loss of territory and refuse to be slaves of imperialists.

The Soviet side reaffirmed its invariable support to the DPRK's constructive proposals and steps for creating a nuclear-free, peace zone in Korea, forcing all the U.S. troops to withdraw from South Korea, converting the unstable armistice into a durable peace and easing military confrontation between the North and the South of Korea and developing the peaceful dialogue and, on this basis, solving the question of the Korean peninsula in such a manner as to reunify the country independently on a democratic basis.

The talks took place in a comradely and friendly atmosphere.

Meeting with Gorbachev

SK260340 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 0300 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with Comrade Kang Song-san, premier of the State Administration Council.

On 25 December, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, met with Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, who is on a visit to the Soviet Union. At the meeting Premier Kang Song-san conveyed warm greetings to Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev from the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il.

After expressing deep thanks for this, Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev said that he wanted comradely greetings to be conveyed to Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il in his own name and in the name of the Soviet leadership. Mentioning the development of the friendly and cooperative relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK, he stressed that the CPSU Central Committee Presidium and the Soviet Government are convinced that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Soviet Union and the DPRK will expand and deepen, and they will make positive efforts to this end. Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev highly appreciated the consistent effort of the DPRK for the preservation of peace and stability on the Korean peninsula. He expressed the wish that the Korean working people will achieve new successes in their socialist construction and in their cause of nation's peaceful reunification under the leadership of the WPK.

The talk progressed in a warm and comradely atmosphere.

Sharapov, aide to the general secretary, and Kim Hyong-yul, vice foreign minister of our country, attended the meeting.

Trade Protocol Signed

SK251532 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1520 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Moscow December 24 (KCNA) -- A protocol on the development of trade and economic cooperation between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for 1986-1990 was signed in Moscow on December 24. The protocol was signed by Kim Pok-sin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK and chairman of the External Economic Commission and Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee.

KIM IL-SONG ATTENDS PUBLIC SECURITY FUNCTION

SK260434 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song, accompanied by leading cadres of the party and the state, congratulated public security men on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the public security body and posed for a photograph with them. Stormy cheers "long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song" burst forth when he appeared at the place of function. A bouquet of flowers imbued with unbounded respect and reverence was presented to President Kim Il-song.

Accompanying him were Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of People's Armed Forces; Comrades Yi Chong-ok, Yon Hyong-muk, Kim Hwan, Ho Tam and So Yun-sok, members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, and Comrades Yi Kun-mo, Kye Ung-tae and Kang Hui-won, alternate members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee.

President Kim Il-song, together with members of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, congratulated the public security men who had firmly defended the revolutionary gains and steadfastly safeguarded the security of the people at the forefront post of the class struggle over the last 40 years, and had a picture taken with them.

The public security men were overflowing with deepest respect and reverence for President Kim Il-song who founded the public security body of chuche type and strengthened and developed it into a mighty political guard of our party by wisely leading it and with firm determination to reliably defend public security and the lives and properties of the people, remaining true to the party's leadership in the future, too, as in the past.

N. YEMEN PRESIDENTIAL ENVOY ARRIVES FOR VISIT

SK231148 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 23 (KCNA) -- Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic Ahmad Muhammad al-Riyani, [name as received] a special envoy of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and his party arrived here today by air. They were met at the airport by vice-minister of foreign affairs Kim Yong-sop and [words indistinct]. The government of the democratic people's republic of Korea arranged a reception for the special envoy and his party.

Meets Kim Yong-nam

SK250508 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0454 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA) -- Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam met and had a friendly talk with Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic Ahmad Muhammad al-'Riyani, special envoy of President 'Ali 'Abdullah Salih, and his party when they paid a courtesy call on him on December 24.

Meets Kim Il-song

SK251033 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA) -- The great leader President Kim Il-song on December 25 received Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Yemen Arab Republic Ahmad Muhammad al-'Riyani, special envoy of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and his party on a visit to our country. Present on the occasion were Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam and Husayin 'Abd al-Kharik al-Jalal, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Yemen Arab Republic to Korea. President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. The special envoy presented a gift of the YAR president to President Kim Il-song.

Departs December 26

SK271008 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 27 (KCNA) -- Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmad Muhammad al-'Riyani, special envoy of President of the Yemen Arab Republic 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, and his party left here on December 26 by plane. They were seen off at the airport by Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Kim Yong-sop and other officials concerned.

MEETING OBSERVES CUBAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

SK250518 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0450 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA) -- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs arranged a friendship meeting on December 24 on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution. Attending the meeting were Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs Chon Chae-hong and officials concerned. Ambassador Ricardo Danza Sigas and officials of the Cuban Embassy in Pyongyang were invited there. Speeches were exchanged at the meeting which was held in a friendly atmosphere.

PROBE INTO ASSEMBLY 'MANHANDLING' ASSAILED

SK251220 (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Station Commentary]

[Text] In this hour of station commentary I will discuss the police's pressing request for those involved in the so-called manhandling incident at the National Assembly Hall to appear at the police station, as part of the police investigation into the incident. The police sent, for the second time, subpoenas to 22 persons allegedly involved in the manhandling incident at the National Assembly Hall, including 11 NKDP assemblymen, requesting their presence at the police station at 1000 on the morning of 23 December. The police threatened to subject them to a compulsory investigation if they refused to appear at the police station.

The so-called manhandling incident at the National Assembly Hall that the Chon Tu-hwan group babbles about occurred as a result of the DJP's unilateral running of the National Assembly, a case unprecedented in the history of the National Assembly, in such a way as to railroad next year's budget bill through the legislature during the 128th regular National Assembly session on the strength of its majority. In other words, the so-called manhandling incident at the National Assembly Hall is a reference to manhandling the NKDP assemblymen and their assistants, who were outraged by the DJP's act of bulldozing through next year's budget bill without their participation, inflicted on the DJP coterie.

As is widely known, the DJP unscrupulously exercised the tyranny of railroading through next year's budget bill and other related bills at a meeting of the National Assembly Finance Committee on 29 November, ignoring the opposition demands for the establishment of a special committee to study constitutional revision. Outraged by this, the opposition assemblymen staged a sit-in through the night on 29-30 November in the main conference room and budget review room at the National Assembly Hall to express their indignation.

However, the DJP impudently gathered in Room No. 146 at the National Assembly Hall on 2 December [as heard], without informing the opposition assemblymen about the meeting and passed in a blitzkrieg manner next year's budget of 1.385 trillion won. It took the DJP less than 2 minutes to pass the budget bill. This cannot but be a shameful tyranny, unprecedented in the history of parliaments of the world, on the part of the ruling party, which runs the National Assembly unilaterally.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with the opposition assemblymen's act of expressing at least part of their indignation against the DJP's tyranny. It was a righteous act that reflected the will of the people. Such being the case, the DJP should take full responsibility for the incident of the manhandling at the National Assembly Hall. Also, in terms of the methods the DJP has employed in running the National Assembly throughout the just-finished regular session, it is none other than the DJP coterie who should have been shackled and held responsible for their abuse. Nevertheless, the Chon Tu-hwan group, regarding the opposition reaction as a crime, took legal action against them. This is nothing but an act of open suppression and retaliation against the opposition party and a gangster's rough and tumble act of blackmailing and threatening the NKDP assemblymen.

The offensive based on violence employed against the opposition party, that was launched after the National Assembly session came to an end in the manner of a thief calling others thieves, has laid bare the political image of the DJP, which has been reduced to a Nazi-style party; as well as the fact that the politics based on dialogue referred to habitually by the DJP is nothing but a fiction designed to deceive the opposition parties and people.

As has been clearly demonstrated by the just-finished 128th National Assembly session, Chon Tu-hwan has once again laid bare for all to see the fact that he is a skilled ringleader of frauds and deception and that the DJP is not a public party that represents public interests, but Chon Tu-hwan's private party and a handmaiden serving the individual Chon Tu-hwan. Whatever deception and last-ditch machinations it may employ, the Chon Tu-hwan group can never deceive or surprise our people. Our people are outraged by the DJP's tyranny, bitterly realizing that it is impossible for them to realize democracy, independence, and reunification as long as the DJP remains intact. Our people will stage a more vigorous struggle against the Chon Tu-hwan group and the DJP which are antipopular and antinational.

All combatants of the People's Army are the sons, grandsons, or nephews of the people. Building a strong and powerful army to defend the fatherland and protect the happy life of the people accords with the interests of the fatherland and the legitimate interests of every citizen. For this reason, the whole people have the duty and honor to join in building the revolutionary army and consolidating national defense.

Since their founding, under the correct leadership of the KPRP, the Revolutionary Armed Forces working shoulder to shoulder with the people and enjoying the sincere assistance of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army in toppling the genocidal Pol Pot regime -- lackeys of the Beijing expansionist-hegemonists -- have been strengthened and developed step by step both in size and in quality, dealing one heavy blow after another to the genocidal gang and other reactionary Cambodian groups, ensuring security, actively contributing to national defense and reconstruction, bringing all-round progress to the nation, and advancing it gradually toward stability. However, our revolutionary struggle to inflict total defeat on the enemies must still go through many difficulties because their fundamental designs toward our country remain unchanged. The Beijing expansionist-hegemonists in collusion with the ultra-rightist forces within the Thai ruling circles continue to support, feed, and provide financial assistance to the reactionary Cambodian groups. They have made use of these reactionary Cambodian groups toward an undeclared war to invade and topple our PRK and to return the genocidal Pol Pot regime to power to once again rule over our people. The ambitions of the enemies remain unbounded and their maneuvers perfidious. In the face of the enemies' these dark designs, the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress have stipulated that our people's main duty is to defend the fatherland and safeguard the revolutionary gains. The whole party and people must pay close attention to building the army and consolidating national defense, maintaining political security and ensuring social order. The army and people must heighten revolutionary vigilance, fighting, and readiness to fight so as to frustrate all destructive maneuvers and activities of the enemies, protect the territorial integrity of our beloved fatherland, and ensure security for our people's lives and peaceful labor in the towns as well as in the remotest part of the countryside.

In order to fulfill these tasks our army must be further consolidated and developed to become a powerful army capable of foiling all enemy maneuvers, defending the revolutionary powers, safeguarding the fatherland's independence and freedom, and contributing to the defense of the three fraternal Indochinese countries and the maintenance of peace and stability in Southeast Asia. These tasks are not reserved for the army alone; they are a common mission of the whole party, people all leading institutions at all levels of the party, government, and front, and all mass organizations. All must actively contribute to this sacred cause.

Under our country's regime, the people have the right to be the masters. In order to fully exercise the right to mastery over the fatherland, each citizen must firmly understand that his primary duty is to defend the nation. The whole people must actively participate in the emulation movement to build the army and consolidate national defense as pointed out by the circular of the party Central Committee Secretariat.

In fact, the party committees at all levels and of all state organizations, army units, and mass organizations from the central to grass-roots levels must carry out well the following tasks:

1. Strive hard to provide explanation, propaganda, and education for the cadres, party members, and people in general so that they fully grasp the [words indistinct] agitating the whole people into emulating in building the army and consolidating national defense [words indistinct].

2. Educate the youth so they understand that their invaluable duty is to take up arms in defense of the fatherland. Encourage the youth to diligently participate in building the armed forces and serving the armed forces both in quantity and in quality.
3. Agitate the whole people into actively contributing physically as well as materially to the army's efforts to build the whole people's armed forces [words indistinct] firmly defending the country, including the regular forces, regional forces, and militia forces. Building militia forces in villages, communes, districts, zones, schools, factories, enterprises, and localities is not aimed merely at getting quantity alone; we must also have quality.
4. Build a firm rear. Correctly implement the policy in the rear toward the families of fallen and disabled soliders; the families with sons, relatives, or husband serving in the army, and the retired cadres and heroes of the revolutionary armed forces.
5. Organize the labor forces to effectively participate in building the border defense line.

To motivate the whole people to emulate in building the army and to consolidate national defense it is necessary to spread this idea widely and educate people in it. [Words indistinct] our army must be developed both quantitatively and politically as well as regarding political understanding, ethical stand, discipline, and consciousness. [Words indistinct] firmly build internal unity, unity with the people [words indistinct] it is imperative to turn villages, communes, districts, wards, zones [words indistinct] with the sincere support and participation of the whole people, our Revolutionary Armed Forces pledge to enthusiastically emulate in developing the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress and implementing the duty of defending the fatherland and preserving the revolutionary gains [words indistinct].

KPRP CC SECRETARIAT CIRCULAR ON NATIONAL DAY

BK261051 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 25 Dec 85

[19 December Circular No. 11 of the party Central Committee Secretariat signed by KPRP General Secretary Heng Samrin on celebrating the seventh anniversary of the 7 January national day]

[Text] This year we celebrate the seventh anniversary of the historic 7 January national day after our party's Fifth Congress has achieved a brilliant success. To mark this anniversary successfully, the party Central Committee Secretariat has decided on a number points as follows:

I. Desideratum and Significance

1. To make the entire party, the entire Armed Forces, and all of our people clearly understand various great achievements of the revolution in all fields over the past 7 years, particularly the victories in the military, political, and economic fields in 1985. Concurrently, the party, the Armed Forces, and the entire people should clearly realize the Cambodian revolution's tasks in the new period adopted by the Fifth Party Congress. In particular, they should realize clearly that 1986 and 1987 will have many new trials, requiring high vigilance against new enemy tricks. Efforts should be made to overcome all new difficulties. It is necessary to consider the localities as the core battlefields. Complete activities to serve the masses and youths should be used to evaluate work performance to score great victories in fulfilling the three strategic targets adopted by the Fifth National Party Congress.

2. Cadres, combatants, and people should be encouraged. The six categories of factors leading to victory should be developed. The spirit of self-reliance should be heightened. National and international solidarity should be strengthened. It is necessary to implement successfully all tasks entrusted by the ministries, offices, units, or localities. It is necessary to concentrate on attacks against the enemies and the movements of their soldiers in the dry season. Paddy harvests and purchases should exceed the plan. Production should be increased and thrift intensified. The localities should be strengthened. Cadres with high revolutionary quality should be formed.

3. In organizing the celebration of this anniversary, the festivities should be made realistic, thrifty, highly vigilant, and safe.

II. Organizational Measures

1. The Central Propaganda and Education Commission should disseminate the significance of the political report of the Fifth Party Congress to the cadres of the ministries, offices, provinces, towns, and districts.

2. The ministries, offices, provinces, and towns should sum up their achievements to serve the masses and combatants in 1985. The achievements of various villages, communes, wards, enterprises, trade establishments, schools, and hospitals should be summed up. Realistic measures should be taken to serve the masses and combatants, to improve conditions in the localities, and to intensify development in many fields in 1986.

3. Units and individuals with outstanding achievements in 1985 should be congratulated and given awards. Emulation movements should be carried out from now to the end of June 1986 on the basis of these requests to acclaim the party's 35th founding anniversary. The Council of Ministers should produce guidelines on this emulation movement by implementing the resolutions of the Fifth Party Congress. In localities, talks should be organized among those with outstanding achievements in fighting the enemies, persuading misled persons to return to the fold, producing, and building real forces to encourage and promote revolutionary movements in every field.

4. The Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union should cooperate with the front, trade unions, women's associations, information and cultural service, educational service, and the General Political Department of the National Defense Ministry to intensify the youth movement to join the Army and to build and strengthen the militia forces and the People's Defense Forces.

5. The mass organizations, in cooperation with all levels of the state power, should send delegations to visit KPRAF units, the units of Vietnamese Volunteer Army, the families of combatants and workers participating in national defense labors, and families with difficulties. The KPRAF and Vietnamese Volunteer Army units and these families should be encouraged and assisted to create an atmosphere of solidarity on the occasion of this national day.

6. All provinces, towns, villages, communes, wards, units, ministries, offices, and enterprises should organize meetings to mark the seventh anniversary of the 7 January national day. Outstanding units and individuals should also be congratulated on that occasion. The emulation movement should also be encouraged in the ministries, offices, departments, or localities.

The permanent committee for organizing national and international ceremonies should organize a solemn meeting in Phnom Penh.

7. Various press organizations, SPK, newspapers, radio, television, and cultural and artistic organizations should make plans to concentrate propaganda and activities on the desideratum and significance in this circular. Propaganda activities should be carried out from now until 15 January 1986 to create an atmosphere of confidence in the party and enthusiasm for participating in this emulation movement.

8. The Foreign Ministry should make guidelines for all our representations abroad to celebrate the 7 January anniversary well this year.

All ministries, offices, provinces, and towns should make reports summing up the results and send them to the Central Propaganda and Education Commission before 25 January 1986 to report to the party Central Committee.

Slogans:

1. Strongly acclaim the seventh anniversary of the PRK!
2. Construct and strengthen the localities to implement successfully various revolutionary tasks in 1986!
3. Cadres wholeheartedly serve the people, and the people actively implement various principles of the party and state!
4. Long live the immortal bonds of solidarity and the cooperation in all fields among Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, the Soviet Union, and various fraternal socialist countries!
5. Long live the PRK -- the fatherland of the Cambodian working people!
6. Long live the glorious KPRP!

[Dated] Phnom Penh, 19 December 1985

[Signed] Heng Samrin, for the party Central Committee Secretariat

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON 41ST VPA DAY ACTIVITIES

SPK Roundup Report

BK250410 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1115 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 24 -- The 41st Army Day of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Dec. 22) has been marked by diverse activities in Kampuchea.

On Saturday the Phnom Penh committee of the United Front for Construction and Defence of the Kampuchean Fatherland held a meeting with the participation of representatives of the populations, factories, public offices, and mass organizations. The meeting was also attended by Thong Khon, candidate member of the party Central Committee and mayor who profoundly thanked the Vietnamese Army volunteers for their sacrifices to the cause of the Kampuchean revolution.

On Sunday, delegation of senior army officers led by Koy Buntha, member of the party Central Committee and deputy defence minister and accompanied by Vu Nha, military attache to the Vietnamese embassy, laid wreaths at the monument to the Vietnamese internationalist combatants and the monument for the dead.

They have also implemented sacred duties to firmly defend their fatherland and have held aloft the banner of justice of the era. Along with this, they have also carried out noble duties prompting international friends to say that Vietnam is at the front line in widening liberated zones for mankind.

As for our fatherland, Vietnam has sent volunteer forces to assist and cooperate with the PRK people and armed forces to score victories over French colonialists and U.S. imperialist aggressor forces and to topple the Pol Pot-Teng Sary genocidal regime, lackey of the Chinese expansionists. Furthermore, the friendly Vietnamese Army has created many favorable conditions for units in the 4th region and people in Siem Reap and Battambang Provinces. The regional forces have become masters of some positions along the border. [applause] [end recording]

After, Comrade General (Do Quang Hung), head of the 479 Command Post, made a speech stressing:

[Begin (Do Quang Hung) recording in Vietnamese with superimposed Cambodian translation] With vigorous revolutionary power, the entire party, army, and people of Cambodia are striving to implement the resolutions of the KPRP's Fifth Congress and are preparing to carry out the 1986 tasks to produce achievements to welcome the seventh anniversary of the 7 January birth of the PRK. The Central Committee delegation led by Comrade Chan Seng, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, paid homage to the spirit of fallen combatants in Siem Reap to commemorate Vietnamese and Cambodian combatants and cadres who have made sacrifices for the cause of strategic militant solidarity of the three Indochinese people. The delegation visited wounded and sick combatants being treated at the 479 Front Command Post. The attention paid by the Central Committee delegation to the armed forces at the 479 Command has greatly touched us.

Today, the party committee and the People's Revolutionary Committee of Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey Province, in cooperation with the 4th regional Army, are ceremoniously marking the 41st anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army. The two nations, Cambodia and Vietnam, have a tradition of militant solidarity and common enemies. This tradition was forged by the great chairman Ho Chi Minh and all the comrade predecessors of the Cambodian revolution with sacrifices from revolutionaries of the two nations who have also contributed to building the special relations among the three Indochinese countries. The three revolutionary movements in the two provinces have vigorously expanded the provincial armed forces, which have carried out tasks with increasing efficiency. This shows our great revolutionary capability. The Cambodian people, in general, and the people in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey and Battambang provinces, in particular, will be able to successfully implement every revolutionary task set forth by the KPRP Fifth Congress and the three strategic tasks of the Cambodian revolution.

On the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army, we would like to express our most profound gratitude to the KPRP Central Committee, the Council of State, the Council of Ministers, the KUFNCD, the Defense Ministry, the 4th Region Command, the party committees and People's Revolutionary Committees of the two provinces [as heard] Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey, and the people in the two provinces, who have created favorable conditions for units of the 479 Command to carry out their task. To recall the brilliant tradition of the Vietnamese People's Army, cadres and combatants of the 479 Command will do their best to fulfill internationalist duties and bind themselves closely to the 4th Regional Army Command and the regional party and state authorities in Siem Reap-Oddar Meanchey and Battambang Provinces to carry out every task along the border and inside the country and become masters of these areas to contribute to building Cambodian regular forces so that they can carry out and implement the three strategic tasks with high efficiency.

[Words indistinct] the character of the working class and tradition of the Vietnamese People's Army, the Cambodian people will become strong and capable of defending the militant solidarity between the two parties, armies, and peoples. [applause] [end recording]

On this ceremonious occasion, on behalf of the party, state, front, and mass organizations, Comrade Chan Seng, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, gave a speech saying, among other things:

[Begin Chan Seng recording] The Cambodian party, government, front, and army will always cherish the great assistance of the CPV and the Vietnamese army and people who have carried on the glorious cause of chairman Ho Chi Minh, the eminent leader, to forge militant solidarity in history and make sacrifices, braving countless difficulties, to cooperate with our army and people in defeating the French colonialists and U.S. imperialists, and in particular saving our Cambodian people and beloved fatherland from the danger of genocide of the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan clique on 7 January 1979.

Currently, at the request of the revolutionary Cambodian people, cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army and Vietnamese experts continue to provide assistance to our army and people in building and expanding the close cooperation to defend national independence, revolutionary gains, and the people's right to live, and provide assistance in building a new life for our people. We warmly welcome the fraternal Vietnamese People's Army which has scored victories in the persistent and courageous struggle against all kinds of enemies to win national independence, freedom, unity, and build the Vietnamese fatherland toward socialism in the past 41 years. [applause]

We vigorously welcome the great successes of cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese Volunteer Army and Vietnamese experts, who have helped our army and people defend and build the Cambodian fatherland over the past 7 years. We particularly welcome the victory, won in cooperation with the Cambodian People's Army, in smashing and completely controlling positions of all types of Cambodian reactionaries along the Cambodian-Thai border during the 1984-1985 dry season.

On behalf of the Cambodian party, government, front, army, and people, on this occasion, we would like to thank the Vietnamese party, government, front, parents and sisters who have sacrificed their beloved children relatives, and husbands in order to sincerely carry out proletarian internationalist tasks to save the Cambodian people and create favorable conditions for our army and people to advance and win victories in every task to defend and build the fatherland in the past 7 years. We will always remember this and would like to express our respect for them; we will learn from the precious sacrifices made by cadres and combatants of the Vietnamese volunteer forces which have sacrificed their flesh and blood to help defend the PRK's national independence, freedom, sovereignty, and territorial integrity.

Dear comrades and friends, with the light of resolutions of the party's Fifth Congress, the whole party, people, and army are emulating to make new achievements to actively contribute to firmly defending the nation's independence and building the Cambodian fatherland step by step toward socialism. Victories won by the Cambodian revolution in the past were great. The situation in our country is favorable. Along with this, we clearly see the perfidious ambitions, stubborn attitude, and maneuvers of the Beijing expansionist clique and Cambodian reactionaries. However, although they are trying to carry out insane counterattacks, they have been dealt severe blows by our army and people in cooperation with the Vietnamese Volunteer Army. They cannot stay near us. The situation of the Cambodian revolution is certainly irreversible.
[applause]

On the 41st founding anniversary of the glorious Vietnamese People's Army, we appeal to all Cambodian Armed Forces and people, in particular the armed forces and people in Siem Reap-Oddar Meancheay Province, to unite firmly around the KPRP, fight vigorously to win victories toward the three revolutionary goals set out in the resolutions adopted by the party's Fifth Congress. These are:

1. Always heighten revolutionary vigilance and be prepared to fight and closely cooperate with the Vietnamese Volunteer Army. Expand our right to be master along the border and inside the country. Discard and weaken the enemies and deal them heavier blows and defeats in their maneuvers. Along with this, we should actively contribute to proselytizing and winning back misled persons.
2. Actively contribute to building real revolutionary forces, particularly in the political, military, and economic fields, so that they are strong in quantity as well as quality to expand revolutionary gain and win victories over the enemy and to defend and build the fatherland with independence, peace, prosperity, and progress. All the people should contribute in the emulation movement to build the army, particularly assist youths who have strength and patriotic spirit, genuine internationalist solidarity, and resolute fighting spirit. They should take part in defending the national independence, the fatherland, and revolutionary gains. They should try hard to vigorously advance agricultural production, particularly in the four economic fields set out by the party's Fifth Congress. Pay attention to careful harvesting paddy and do not let it fall into the enemies' hands. Contribute to selling paddy to the state and defend and build a firm and prosperous Cambodian fatherland. They should correctly implement the slogan "Selling paddy to the state is being patriotic; the state selling goods directly to the people is loving the people."
3. Increase the special bonds and sacred relations between Cambodia and Vietnam. Increase close cooperation between our people's armed forces and Vietnamese Volunteer Army. Assist one another in fighting the enemies and firmly building localities in every field to advance to take over the tasks being shouldered by the Vietnamese army. Clearly understand the special revolutionary alliance between Cambodia and Vietnam and realize that this is a fighting force for the cause of defending revolutionary gains. Along with this, tighten the Cambodia-Vietnam-Laos solidarity bonds in the Indochinese peninsula. This is a strategic and firm alliance. Unite with the Soviet Union and fraternal socialist countries. This is a factor, among others, to ensure the definitive victory of the Cambodian revolution.

Long live the heroic and courageous Vietnamese People's Army! [applause]

Long live the glorious 41st founding anniversary of the Vietnamese People's Army? [applause]

Long live the Cambodia-Vietnam militant solidarity and multiform cooperation. May they remain immortal and last forever! [applause] [end recording]

This ceremony went on in an atmosphere of cordial and warm friendship and solidarity after the meeting watched an art performance with moving sentiments.

Che Sim Greets Huynh Tan Phat

BK270900 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1300 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Comrade Chea Sim, chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, has sent a message to Comrade Huynh Tan Phat, chairman of the Vietnam Fatherland Front Presidium, on the occasion of the 41st founding anniversary of the fraternal VPA!

The message read: During the past 41 years, the fraternal VPA, under the glorious leadership of the CPV and founded by President Ho Chi Minh, has braved all kinds of difficulties, won brilliant victories over the French colonialists, Japanese fascists, U.S. imperialists, and Beijing expansionist-hegemonists, and reunified the fatherland in the advance toward socialism. Though the Beijing expansionists were defeated they have not given up their aggressive ambitions. All their senseless actions, however, have been most shamefully frustrated by the Vietnamese Army and people.

In Cambodia, the VPA has helped and is helping the Cambodian people and their revolutionary armed forces. The great and brilliant success of our recent Fifth KPRP Congress, all steps of development of the Cambodian revolution, and the rapid growth of the Cambodian People's Revolutionary Army cannot be separated from the considerable assistance permeated with a lofty sense of proletarian internationalism rendered by the fraternal Vietnamese party, people, and Army.

I take this opportunity to wish you and the fraternal VPA more and yet greater successes. May the bonds of solidarity, friendship, and cooperation between Cambodia and Vietnam last forever.

SPK COMMENTS ON KPNLF INTERNAL POWER STRUGGLE

BK261216 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1114 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 26 -- The power struggle among the Khmer reactionaries which has been going on ever since they were brought together by the Chinese expansionists, the U.S. imperialists, and reactionary circles in Thailand, is becoming sharper now that they are faced with their imminent Waterloo. A new dispute has just broken out in the so-called Khmer People's National Liberation Front led by Son Sann. According to Western sources, the military leader, Sak Sutsakhan, has seized control in an attempt to improve the army's dwindling strength, causing Son Sann to threaten to resign.

It is in common knowledge that both Son Sann and Sihanouk are just straw-men used by Beijing and Washington in their criminal acts against the revival of the Kampuchean people, but their mutual mistrust and animosity are too serious for them to get along together. The rulers in Beijing, therefore, have often had to sharply call them to order. But none of the moral and military support from Beijing and Washington can prevent the rift in the counter-revolution camp from widening, and no effort can save the reactionaries from their doom.

SON SANN INTERVIEWED ON KPNLF DISPUTE

BK270045 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Dec 85 p 5

["Exclusive Interview" of Son Sann, KPNLF president, to Praphaiphan Ratthamarit on 24 December]

[Text] [Praphaiphan] Has the conflict been solved and if so how?

[Son Sann] I don't know why a few people of our front have caused this conflict, but I can say that it is on the way to being resolved and it will be resolved, and very soon. We have lost a lot of time because the front -- the KPNLF -- has a duty to fight the Vietnamese and to liberate Kampuchea, not to fight among themselves. And I think everyone now understands this. We are on the way to resolving the problem.

[Praphaiphan] And how long do you think it will take to solve the problem?

[Son Sann] We have to see each other and to speak to each other. I am not in a hurry because we are now on the right track. That is why I am very confident.

[Praphaiphan] What are you going to do about the other group?

[Son Sann] I'm not in a position to make a comment because the issue is still under negotiation.

[Praphaiphan] Who will be in charge of the coordination with the Sihanoukists?

[Son Sann] I think that there will be no change, General Sak Sutsakhan will be in charge. That means he is in charge of the so-called "Permico" -- the Permanent Military Coordination Committee. And I am very happy because he is a good man, he understands the situation very well and I think he is the best man for the job.

[Praphaiphan] How much do you think the conflict has damaged the KPNLF's image abroad, with the United States, the European Economic Community and China?

[Son Sann] I have to say that our front -- the KPNLF -- is a part of the Coalition Government of Democratic Kampuchea and as far as the Coalition Government is concerned, we enjoyed a great victory at the United Nations last November. As everyone knows, 114 countries voted for us. His Excellency Khieu Samphan and myself, with His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk in Peking, made a state visit to China. The visit was a great success because we showed everyone, our friends in China, and to the world that the solidarity between the three parties, the FUNCINPEC, the KPNLF and the Party of Democratic Kampuchea, is very solid.

Our solidarity is strong. It is a great success for us and it is recognised by the world. That is why I am very sorry that this conflict, which has lasted for a few days now, has given us a bad image. We hope the conflict will be resolved soon.

I am very happy that during the days of conflict all the ASEAN countries China and Prince Norodom Sihanouk sent messages of support to me and the coalition movement. They told the coalition leaders of their strong support. We would like to express our deep gratitude to His Royal Highness Prince Sihanouk, and to all the countries which have supported us. We have received many supporting letters from the United States, Europe, and even from the Islamic community. I think now everyone understands that in a family sometimes there are disputes, but these disputes usually don't last long.

China has given us financial, material and medical aid. The Chinese leaders have told us that as long as we maintain solidarity among ourselves and if we struggle for our liberation against the Vietnamese, they are ready to help us for as long as it takes. We will try to liberate our country as soon as possible.

[Praphaiphan] Do you know when the Khmer radio station will officially start broadcasting towards Kampuchea?

[Son Sann] I cannot tell you for sure.

[Praphaiphan] Do you plan to see your people on New Year's day? Do you have any message for them?

[Son Sann] I will tell them that the conflict is unnecessary but it will be solved in a positive way. We should concentrate on our fight against the Vietnamese until we have liberated ourselves and until our country is free.

WU XUEQIAN DISCUSSES SRV AGGRESSION, PRC ROLE

BK270013 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] China will use strong measures to help Thailand repulse Vietnamese troops violating Thai territory in the current dry season, Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said yesterday. Speaking on his arrival at Don Muang Airport yesterday, Mr Wu said there was a possibility Hanoi would violate Thai territory. "China will not stand idly by," he said, but would use forceful measures in concert with Thailand which was a good friend.

Mr Wu, who has just completed a five-nation tour of the Middle East, said he was aware of the conflict in the noncommunist Khmer People's National Liberation Front. Urging the KPNLF to remedy the problem, he said the common interest of the resistance was to fight Vietnam's occupying troops in Kampuchea. The Foreign Minister declined to say if he would meet KPNLF leader Son Sann during his stay in Thailand which is his third visit this year. He came to Thailand as guest of Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila and his programme had been arranged. He intended to take a brief rest before returning to China.

Reaffirming Beijing's support for the Thai stand on Kampuchea, Mr Wu said he would hold talks with ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sitthi which would be beneficial and supportive. Mr Wu reiterated that Beijing would not open diplomatic ties with Russia unless it stopped supporting Hanoi in maintaining troops in Kampuchea.

AFP Report

HK261238 Hong Kong AFP in English 1227 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Bangkok, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xueqian said upon arriving here today that China would use "forceful measures" against Vietnamese troops if they entered Thai territory in any offensive against the Cambodian resistance. Mr Wu told Thai Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila, who greeted him at the airport, that China would not "remain dormant" if Thai sovereignty was infringed. He said that China would use "forceful measures," in coordination with the Thai Government, to retaliate against incursions by Vietnamese troops. "China cannot allow Vietnam to trample on Thai sovereignty," said Mr Wu, who is here on a two-day official visit to Thailand.

Speaking at an airport press conference which Mr Sitthi attended, Mr Wu said he was aware of the power struggle currently wracking the Cambodian resistance group the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF). He said he believed that the rival factions' "common interest" in fighting Vietnamese aggression in Cambodia would be an impetus towards an orderly settlement. Mr Wu said his talks with Thai leaders would focus on Cambodia, on which the two nations agree. He said they would also discuss Thai-Chinese trade and other bilateral issues and that he would brief Mr Sitthi on his recent five-nation Middle East tour.

Mr Wu said Beijing and Moscow were improving their economic relations but were not making political headway. He said China stood by its three prerequisites for normalizing relations with the Soviet Union. They are: The withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan, the reduction of the number of Soviet troops along the Sino-Soviet border and the end of Soviet support for the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia. Asked if he would meet the KPNLF's disputed leader Son Sann during his two-day visit here, Mr Wu said he had come as a guest of Mr Sitthi and would prefer to "rest" when not attending official functions.

SITTHI ON SRV 'COCKTAIL' TALKS, USSR INFLUENCE

BK260830 Bangkok NAEON in Thai 25 Dec 85 p 16

[Text] In his speech during the election rally organized by the Social Action Party at Sanam Chai ground on Tuesday [24 December] -- Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said that the cocktail party that could lead to the solution to the Cambodian problem must also be attended by Vietnam, not only groups. The foreign minister continued: "We want both the aggressors and their victims to talk with each other," and noted that Thailand and Vietnam are not enemies. Thailand only wants Vietnam to withdraw its occupation troops from Cambodia. Vietnam has always refused to do so despite several rounds of talks. Saying that he is ready to meet and talk with Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach under the condition that "Vietnam must be sincere and aware of its mistake in launching aggression against Cambodia." The foreign minister also said that if the Soviet Union wants to befriend ASEAN it must stop giving weapons to Vietnam which, he believes, could end the Cambodian conflict within 2 years. Otherwise, "it will be opposed by both China and the United States endlessly." The foreign minister disclosed that China has pledged to continue its support for the Cambodian people's struggle and that Vietnam is now one of the poorest nations in the world. The protracted war in Cambodia will only make things more difficult for it.

ATHIT ON SECURITY AT DISPUTED LAO BORDER

BK230905 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 23 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] Supreme Commander and Army Commander-in-Chief General Athit Kamlang-ek has expressed hope that the situation at the three villages in Ban Khok Subdistrict of Uttaradit Province bordering Laos would be kept under control as in the past. His remark came yesterday during his visits to Suriyaphong Military Camp in Nan, a Cavalry Task Force at Ban Khok Subdistrict in Uttaradit and the First Cavalry Battalion in Phetchabun to give New Year's blessing and gifts to soldiers. Thailand had in the past a dispute with Laos over legitimate ownership of three border villages in Ban Kohk subdistrict: Ban Mai, Ban Klang and Ban Sawang.

Gen Athit said he hoped the soldiers would be able to continue to keep the situation at the three villages under control although many problems such as an economic setback and impact from external situation are anticipated in the new year. The country's peaceful existence relies on soldiers' sacrifice for national defence and unity is most vital in the face of more problems to come, he noted. Although military budget has been cut due to the need for the country to be austere, the military will continue to perform duties at its best, he said. "I believe discipline and faith in commanders will form an important force to solve the problems. ... Our readiness in both equipment and personnel will contribute to peace in our country," he said.

ARMY RADIO CRITICIZES LAOS ON NATIONAL DAY

BK251155 Bangkok 1st Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Good morning listeners: On 2 December the Lao leadership celebrated the 10th founding anniversary of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The celebrations were also attended by delegates from various socialist countries, such as the Soviet Union, Vietnam, Cambodia, Romania, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, East Germany, and Cuba. We would like to present the following article, entitled: "Laos Is Sinking Into a Bottomless Pit," to mark this occasion:

Dear listeners, the Lao leadership handed over Laos' independence and sovereignty to Vietnam and the socialist-communist superpower in 1975 when Vietnam sent 50,000 soldiers to occupy Laos under the so-called special relations. Some 320,000 out of Laos's population of 3.9 million have fled their homeland. Many were killed by the Vietnamese. There are now 95,000 Lao nationals stranded in Thailand. According to a human rights agency, the Lao Government has sent at least 60,000 people to education camps or prisons charged with political offenses. Laos' ratio of political prisoners to population is the highest in the world. The UNHCR office reports that most of the 320,000 Lao who have fled their country are intellectuals or belong to the middle class. Therefore, Laos is now facing the shortage of human resources for developing the country.

Dear listeners, the Lao leadership has resorted to the collective farming system to develop the country on instructions from Vietnam, but has totally failed in this regard. During the past 10 years, communist socialism has brought only poverty to Laos, which has become another of the world's poor nations. The Lao leadership has always lied to the people, saying that it will lead the country to prosperity. Since 2 December 1975, Laos has not become the Yugoslavia of Asia. Tailing after Vietnam's foreign policy, the Lao leadership is hostile to its neighboring countries.

Western observers estimated Laos' per capita income at not more than \$200, or 6,000 baht per year. The literacy rate in Laos is quite low. Laos has only one doctor to serve 20,000 people while its industries and communications have not yet been developed. Laos must depend on assistance from the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. Amid the country's economic crisis resulting from the erroneous policy chosen by the Lao leadership, the Lao patriotic people are putting up stronger resistance to the Lao Government. The Lao people throughout the country are trying to topple the small ruling clique to liberate themselves from the oppressive communist regime.

Dear listeners, the past 10 years have seen the mistake made by the Lao leaders who have allowed Vietnam to lead them by the nose and have plunged their country into inevitable bankruptcy. Laos was the last country in Indochina to fall into the communist claws. Cambodia was the first when the Khmer Rouge successfully captured Phnom Penh on 17 April 1975. The Lao leadership has caused the deterioration of relations between the two sides of the Mekong River, in particular after the dispute over the three villages along the border between Thailand's Uttaradit Province and Laos' Sayaboury Province in 1984. Meanwhile, relations between Laos and China, its bigger northern neighbor, remain stagnant.

On 2 December Lao leader Kaysone Phomvihan stated that Laos wants close relations with Thailand and is willing to renormalize relations with China. Being disappointed with communist socialism, the Lao leadership desperately approached the United States, allowing U.S. officials to search for MIA remains in Laos with a hope that the United States would resume its assistance. Like Vietnam, Laos is selling the bones of U.S. MIA's. Both Vietnam and Laos have already sold their countries' independence and sovereignty to the communist superpower. The Lao leadership has now come to realize that communism brings only poverty.

The search for the remains of the 556 U.S. MIA's in Laos will begin early next year. The Lao leadership hopes that the United States will resume assistance. Many Lao people must flee their homeland while those who remain in the country are being heavily oppressed and live in hardship and poverty. Only a few Lao leaders can live happy lives -- and this at the expense of the people's tears and suffering.

Dear listeners, we Thais can learn a good lesson from Laos: Laos has lost everything and has been enslaved by other countries because of the insane ambitions of the Lao leaders who have traded national sovereignty and independence for communist socialism. The once peaceful country is burning. The people are suffering everywhere. Fraternal Laos is the victim of the erroneous decision by the Lao leadership. We Thais can only sympathize with them and provide humanitarian assistance for the Lao refugees.

Thailand respects international law and adheres to the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries. Ironically, the Lao leadership still accuses Thailand of having supported the Lao national liberation movement despite Thailand's desire to revive the long-standing brotherly relations with Laos. Laos and Thailand are brothers of the same bloodline. Thailand wants the Mekong River to become a river of peace binding our two countries. Unfortunately, the Lao leadership is living in illusion, thus plunging the Lao fraternal people into poverty and hardship.

Dear listeners, the 2 December celebrations in Laos were infamous, marking the anniversary of the loss of the Lao people's freedom. What we can learn from Laos is that disunity and insane ambitions will never bring solidarity, independence, or peace to the country. We must be united both in time of sorrow and happiness so that we can enjoy independence and freedom forever.

AMBASSADOR CRITICIZES U.S. FARM BILL AMENDMENT

BK241325 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in English 1500 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Article: "Thai Rice Exports Pose No Threat to the U.S. Rice Industry"]

[Text] On 22 November the U.S. Senate has agreed to an amendment entitled: "Unfair Subsidization of Thai Rice." This amendment as part of the Agriculture, Food and Conservation Act of 1985, known as the farm bill, is now pending the consideration in the conference committee. Such amendment and its accompanied statement charged that Thai rice exports have posed threat to the U.S. rice industry as a result of the Thai Government's subsidization.

In response to this misunderstanding, Thai Ambassador to the United States M.R. Kasemsamoson Kasemsi has dispatched a note to Senator Lugar and other appropriate members of Congress and administration so as to set the record straight. In his statement, Ambassador Kasemsi has pointed out that Thailand has been unfairly singled out and subjugated to undue, unsubstantiated charges regarding Thai rice exports. Taking into account the world market situation for commodities, of which prices have taken a nose dive in recent years due to the shrinking world market as many erstwhile food importing countries have not obtained self-sufficiency, the difficulties of the U.S. rice industry cannot therefore be blamed on Thailand.

The Thai ambassador to the United States further clarified the issue that, as Thailand's economy is heavily dependent on her rice exports for foreign exchange earnings, Thailand has borne the brunt of such a situation. While Thailand has indeed exported more rice and increased her share of the world market, the earnings from her exports have in fact declined. With regard to the domestic U.S. rice industry, the Thai ambassador to the United States indicated that the domestic prices of U.S. rice have been kept steady in the face of declining world market prices of commodities. The domestic price of U.S. rice is therefore higher than world market prices through the domestic agricultural price support program in order to cushion the adverse effects on U.S. farmers. The figures of the U.S. Department of Agriculture show that since 1980 the total cost of U.S. price support program for rice has amounted to \$1.4 billion or averaging \$346 million annually.

The high-cost dollar had further increased the prices of U.S. rice to the would-be buyers, thus making U.S. rice exports even more uncompetitive internationally. The claim that Thailand subsidized her rice exports, therefore, totally ignores the fact that Thailand imposed a premium or export tax on her rice exports as a means of raising government revenue. The Thai ambassador stated further in his letter to the U.S. members of Congress and Administration that Thai rice exports to the United States do not pose any threat to the domestic production. In 1984, Thailand exported only 51.3 million pounds of rice to the United States out of a total U.S. domestic production of 137 billion pounds, accounting for a mere 0.037 percent. It is therefore inconceivable that such a negligible amount could have any disruptive effects on the U.S. rice industry. As regards the countervalue duty petition on Thai rice filed by the U.S. Rice Millers Association on 24 September, the Thai Government and industry have fully rendered genuine cooperation to the U.S. Commerce Department to facilitate the latter's undertaking of the investigation process.

In conclusion, the Thai ambassador said that it can only be deduced that the action taken against Thailand seem to stem principally from the ulterior motive of establishing (?the fictitious) claim of unfair competition from Thailand in the world market, and that entitled claimant to utilize that attractively immense export enhancement fund. With this clarification over the rice issue, the Thai ambassador to the United States hoped that Senator Lugar and other appropriate members of Congress and administration would share Thailand's concern over the passage of the amendment entitled "Unfair Subsidization of Thai Rice," and would take any appropriate action to ensure that the amendment is not included in the final version of the Farm Bill to be tabled soon before Congress.

ARMY RADIO PROGRAM VIEWS KHUKRIT SPEECH

BK231323 Bangkok 1st Army Division Radio in Thai 2300 GMT 22 Dec 85

["Sayamanusati" program]

[Text] Good morning, dear listeners. During each election campaign, certain political parties and politicians say something in their campaign speeches and interviews which creates division in the nation, especially between the civil, police, and military officials on the one hand and the people on the other. They often make use of the word democracy as their key condition. The campaigning for the Bangkok Constituency 1 by-election to fill the two vacant seats is going on at present. Our program would like to present to you the following article: "One Should Not Create Divisions Through Political Campaigning."

The general public also wonders why certain political parties and politicians have to campaign in a manner which creates rifts and insults others. The leader of a big political party and a most veteran politician in this country, M.R. Khukrit Pramot, always criticized such campaigning saying that it is not what politicians should do. On 15 December, M.R. Khukrit mentioned this problem again in his campaign speech at Wat Pradu Thammathipat. He said that Thailand has problems on two fronts at present, the political and economic front. On the political front, we must try to protect democracy against dictatorship. For that goal, we must be able to preserve our unity through compromise, and we must have an elected parliament and government. What is causing concern at present is the fact that certain political parties are trying to create division by saying that the military is destroying democracy. He said he disagreed with that. For him the military and the people are both Thai, and they have joined with each other since the Ayutthaya period in the fighting to restore national independence and freedom. In the past, even the chief of finance joined in the battle. It is therefore not correct to ban the military from airing their views as they are entitled as a citizen.

He said that some groups suggested that the military should be moved outside Bangkok because that would prevent them from staging a coup d'etat. M.R. Khukrit said this kind of suggestion is stupid. The military can stage a coup if they wish to although they may have to move from as far as Phetchabun Province. He explained that Bangkok is the residence of the king and the king is the chief of the Thai Armed Forces. The military must therefore be in Bangkok. There is already an example in the period of Field Marshal Sarit Thanarat. A parliamentary committee proposed that the military be moved outside Bangkok. To this, Field Marshal Sarit said he had no objection, but he said the plan needed money. He then asked the Committee how much money they had. The committee said it was ready to allocate 20 million baht for the plan. Field Marshal Sarie laughed and said with that money only the military band could be moved out. M.R. Khukrit said he was really impressed by the field marshal. He himself has never thought in terms of division by colors or units. Democracy needs time. In 17 months, the parliament will survive its full 4-year-term. By then, we will be able to be confident that our democracy will survive.

Speaking about the economic front, M.R. Khukrit said Thailand is not the only country affected by this worldwide economic slump. Our neighbors, including Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia, have also been hard hit. This is the first time that Thailand has won more gold medals in the Southeast Asian Games than Indonesia. Indonesia always won the first place in the games as it is a big country and thus has a large choice for the best athletes and sportsmen among their population. Anyway, this year Indonesia did not win because of its poor economy. This problem is worldwide. We in Thailand must also help one another in order to improve our economy.

A way to do that is by reducing interest and encouraging the flow of money. Everyone in the country must cooperate to solve the problem. We cannot leave it to a handful of technocrats, either from the National Economic Development Board or from the Bank of Thailand, to solve. It often happened that people were not able to solve the problem. They easily submitted to defeat. In fact, we must make every effort to solve the problem, and we must be humanitarian. We cannot just raise taxes whenever there is no money in the national reserves. Let us think less of the account, but more of the people. We must encourage and facilitate businesses in the private sector so that there will be more employment for the people. If this problem is solved, our country will continue to survive. In the past, Thailand even took part in a battle outside the country. Now, it is only the economic enemy that we have to cope with. What we need is only unity and cooperation.

The speech by M.R. Khukrit Pramot contains several interesting points. First, he pointed out that if we are to safeguard democracy, all in the country must be united. This is important because it is impossible to achieve democracy if the people in the country are divided. We will give you an example to make it easier for you to understand. There was a time in Laos when development of democracy was a task for all in the country. Everyone was talking about democracy. The country was divided into three factions, the rightists, the leftists, and the neutralists, and the three factions were competing in efforts to develop democracy. The leftists, especially, took the lead and were responsible for creating rifts because they disagreed with any compromise for the sake of unity. The then Lao prime minister, Prince Souvanna Phouma, tried his best to forge the three Lao factions into one strong force for the development of democracy. A coalition government of the three factions was thus set up with two factions accepting the condition of the leftists that the Lao communist army be included.

Prince Souvanna Phouma conceded to that condition out of his desire for Lao unity. The Lao red army thus marched into the city to join the government under Prince Souvanna Phouma. Not long after that, the leftists, or the Lao Communist Party, were driving a wedge to divide the Lao people and the Lao government.

Only a short period after that, Laos lost its unity and strength. It decayed and weakened. When Laos became utterly weak, the real power behind the Lao Communist Party -- which is a party of foreigners -- successfully took over Laos and remains in control today. The Lao people have lost all their independence and freedom. That is an example of the result of the development of democracy which is not based on the unity and cooperation of the people in the nation, and which created rifts among the people and officials of the same nation. If our development of democracy is carried out in the same manner, we will inevitably reap the same result.

There is another example in Cambodia. When the country received independence from France, Prince Norodom Sihanouk also engaged in campaigns to develop democracy in the country. He even stepped down from the throne and became head of the government himself in order to work fully to develop democracy. He saw Cambodia lapse into three factions and finally fall to communist dictatorship and later on to occupation by communist foreigners. Should we be satisfied with this kind of development of democracy? We are sure that the Thai people never want to see their country in such a situation. They would prefer to see democracy development based on national unity, cooperation, and strength. In this connection we must be vigilant and try to see who is using the word democracy as a tool to create division among the Thai people and government officials in order to destroy our unity and strength. Once we know who they are, we must stop them.

Another interesting point made by M.R. Khukrit Pramot is that the military and the people are all Thai. They have joined together in the struggle to restore and preserve national independence -- ever since the Ayutthaya period. Even the chief of finance at that time took part in the battle. It is not correct, therefore, to prevent the military from expressing their opinions. Soldiers are entitled to express their opinions as citizens. Yes, we fully agree with him on this point because what he said is true. If we disagreed with such a truth, it would be undemocratic. We would remind you finally that unity and strength is the most important basic element in the development of democracy in any country. It is impossible for a country to build democracy from division and rifts in the country. Division only leads to communist dictatorship. This is based on the theory of division by Karl Marx. If we want democracy and not communism, let us build unity and strength in our country.

DEMOCRATS NARROWLY WIN BANGKOK BY-ELECTION

BK270127 Bangkok THE NATION in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] Democrats Gen Han Linanon and Khanin Bunsuwan beat the Social Action Party's candidates by a narrow margin of 5,994 votes in one of the most exciting Bangkok by-elections yesterday. The Democrats captured 58,938 votes while SAP candidates Lt Gen Withun Yasawat and Rachot Kanchanawanit got 52,944 votes. The Prachakon Thai team, meanwhile, received only 26,447 votes in the contest covering eight districts. The voter turnout was 20.06 per cent, well below the 26-¹¹ percent predicted earlier by the National Statistical Office (NSO).

The Democrats won in seven out of the eight districts in the constituency by a wide margin of about 15,901 votes, but lost to the SAP team by 9,907 votes in Dusit, the largest district densely populated by military voters. As a result, the margin of victory was narrowed to 5,994 votes.

Democrat leader Phichai Rattakun, apparently disappointed with the narrow margin, said that despite the victory, the party could not afford to be "arrogant." He said that the voter turnout should have been higher. Nakhon Ratchasima MP Thawin Phaison, a member of the Democrat campaign team, blamed the NSO's predictions for the low voter turnout. The NSO, he said, predicted that the victor would beat the runner-up to about 60,000 votes and as a result, many party supporters thought that there was no need for them to go cast their ballots.

M.R. Khukrit could not be reached for comment last night but the SAP candidates said they were satisfied with the outcome. They said they still intended to run in the next general elections despite the defeat. Prachakon Thai leader Samak Sunthorawet appeared aware of the outcome in advance. He was all smiles and said: "Whatever will be, will be." Samak said he was not most happy that the NSO's predictions were disproved.

Observers commented that the outcome of the race was another victory for the Democrat Party, which won in the last two by-elections in Constituency Two and Constituency Three, and a major setback for both SAP and Prachakon Thai Party. It was also taken as a personal defeat for both SAP leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot and Samak who were elected from some or other districts in the constituency in the last general elections in 1983.

M.R. Khukrit was then elected with the highest votes in Phra Nakhon, Samphanthawong, Bang Rak and Khlong San where the SAP team yesterday suffered a clear-cut defeat. Although Lt Gen Withun and Dr Rachot won up to 25,043 votes in Dusit, observers commented that the majority of their votes were cast by some 20,000 or so military voters and their family members in the district. All these took place against the backdrop of the SAP leader going all out to campaign for the SAP team over the past weeks. Samak also devoted himself fully to the campaign. Prachakon Thai Party even put up posters over the last days of the election campaign asking people to vote for the "No. Three team" for Samak, who won in Dusit and Phaya Thai in the last general elections. Samak said he was not sure where he would run in the next general elections, though he declared that he would not give up his political career or dissolve his party.

KHUKRIT RESIGNS AS SOCIAL ACTION PARTY CHIEF

BK270830 Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 27 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] M.R. Khukrit Pramot this morning resigned as the Social Action Party [SAP] leader in a letter submitted to the party's secretary general Mr Phong Sarasin, a party source told the WORLD. The SAP members are to meet this afternoon and expected to discuss the validity of M.R. Khukrit's resignation. Earlier, the party planned only to evaluate its defeat in yesterday's by-election. However, the source said, M.R. Khukrit will not attend the meeting but have asked Mr Phong to read out his resignation letter to the assembly.

Deputy leader Sawat Khamprakop (MP, Nakhon Sawan) rushed to the party headquarters this morning upon learning from some sources that M.R. Khukrit was planning to step down. "I can only say that it then heard more about M.R. Khukrit's rumoured intention (among party members at the head-quarters)," said Mr Sawat, who is also a minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office.

Mr Sawat anyway warned that it was still not certain about the outcome, but believed that "all the matters would be discussed at this afternoon's meeting." It was confirmed that SAP members are to meet at 2 p.m. today originally to "analyse the result of yesterday's by-election."

Mr Sawat said other SAP members he talked to concluded that M.R. Khukrit "wanted to quit" as a gesture of penance over yesterday's by-election defeat of the party's candidates, Lt-Gen Withun Yasawat and Dr Rachot Kanchanawanit. Mr Sawat added that should Mr Khukrit really wanted quit, he doubted that the SAP members would allow him to do so but rather "would appeal to him to stay on."

Mr Sawat said M.R. Khukrit's resignation would adversely affect the party for two main reasons -- The party has never considered a successor for M.R. Khukrit, and that none of the ten deputies are suitable enough to take over the top post. Mr Sawat admitted that the SAP's popularity was on the decline, but said that without M.R. Khukrit's charismatic leadership, the party would be sliding faster downhill and would lose disastrously in the 1987 general election. "We would likely plead with him (M.R. Khukrit) to stay on at least until after the general election," he said.

M.R. Khukrit this morning was unavailable for comment because he was attending a meeting at the Bangkok Bank of Commerce headquarters. However, his resignation would not affect his party membership as well as his status as an MP for Bangkok. Asked to comment on the reported resignation, Social Democratic Party leader Khlaeo Khlaeo Norapati said he should resign because his party lost to the Democrats in a constituency which was once dominated by the Social Action Party. But he said he believed that if M.R. Khukrit did resign, then the party would be split and the Government would no longer survive.

COMMUNIST LEADER SAID HIDING IN BANGKOK

BK260958 Bangkok NAEON in Thai 26 Dec 85 pp 1, 16

[Excerpt] Reports from Buriram Province say that on 25 December Buriram Provincial Governor Phon Udomphong sent a message -- No. BR0015/1985 -- to Interior Permanent Secretary Phisan Munlasatsathon informing him that communist Ri Sokun, alias Comrade Wat, has fled his jungle operation area and is now living with relatives in Bangkok. Ri, along with other communists, intends to surrender to the government. The governor also revealed that Ri and his colleagues were offered 5 million baht by representatives of the new pro-Soviet and -Vietnamese Communist Party to join them but no agreement was reached because Ri wanted to keep 2 million baht just for himself.

A source who requested anonymity told our correspondent that Ri is a member of the regional committee of the Communist Party of Thailand [CPT] and leader of the communist terrorists active in the area of Khon Buri District of Nakhon Ratchasima Province. It is unlikely that such a high-ranking person would change his ideology easily. However, the same source could not confirm that Ri is now hiding in Bangkok, but noted that the communist leader has not been seen for a long time. He added: "The report on their change of affiliation cannot be substantiated. However, the CPT leadership once instructed lower-ranking members to maintain contacts with the pro-Soviet and -Vietnamese elements" in the areas of logistics and intelligence gathering.

OFFICIAL CITED ON LI PENG-GORBACHEV MEETING

HK261112 Hong Kong AFP in English 1043 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Vietnam today welcomed a visit earlier this week by Chinese Vice-Premier Li Peng to Moscow, saying that an improvement in Sino-Soviet relations would help reduce tension in Asia. The visit was part of a process of improved relations between Beijing and Moscow, and Vietnam welcomed such an improvement because it "contributes to a reduction of tension in Asia and in the world," an official source told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. Mr Li met with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev Monday, and Mr Gorbachev afterwards stressed the importance of a Sino-Soviet rapprochement "in the interests of peace in Asia." Beijing has cited three obstacles to a normalisation of relations with Moscow, including Soviet support for Vietnam's presence in Cambodia. The others are a strong Soviet buildup along the Chinese border and the Soviet presence in Afghanistan. Vietnamese leaders say they do not fear that a Sino-Soviet rapprochement will affect Moscow's support for its Cambodian policy, but at the same time frequently stress that Vietnamese policy is independent of Sino-Soviet relations. There has been no mention of Mr Li's Moscow visit in the Vietnamese press.

PRK ENVOY PRESENTS CREDENTIALS 26 DECEMBER

BK261634 Hanoi VNA in English 1602 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 26 -- Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Vietnam Tep Henn today presented his credentials to vice president of the State Council Nguyen Huu Tho. The Vietnamese vice president had a cordial conversation with the Kampuchean diplomat.

MARCOS ORDERS NEW CIVIL SERVICE TRAINING SCHEME

HK270843 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 25 Dec 85 pp 1, 3

[Text] President Marcos yesterday ordered the entire government machinery to adopt and incorporate into the civil service career program a new training scheme called Government Reorientation on Accountability and Commitment for Effective Service (GRACES) which will inculcate among government workers the tenets of the new Filipino ideology. In his directive, the President told Prime Minister Cesar Virata, the CSC [Civil Service Commission] chairman and all heads of ministries, bureaus and offices of the national government, constitutional agencies, government-owned or controlled corporations, presidents and heads of state colleges and universities, and heads of local government units to adopt and implement the program.

In issuing Letter of Instructions [LOI] 1503, the President emphasized that the national economic recovery program required the active support and involvement of all sectors of society, including the participation of all government officials and employees for the effective delivery of government services to the people. The President added that deeper commitment to the goals and objectives of the New Republic and to the moral, spiritual and work values can be achieved through continuing service-wide government reorientation on accountability and commitment for effective service as proposed by the Career Executive Service Development Program alumni association (CESDP). The GRACES program is intended to:

- 1) Strengthen and develop a deeper sense of accountability, commitment and dedication to service among all government employees;
- 2) Upgrade and update the employees' awareness of the goals, programs and projects of the New Republic in general, and of their respective offices in particular;
- 3) Intensify the dissemination of the Filipino ideology and internalize its components into actual practise among government personnel;
- 4) Develop a monitoring system to evaluate the commitment and support of government officials and employees to various government programs, and perception of their roles, experiences, observations and aspirations; and
- 5) Recommend appropriate awards to government officials and employees for exemplary performance.

The LOI provided for the organization of a GRACES National Advisory Board to be headed by the Prime Minister as chairman with the CSC chairman as vice chairman, and the line and staff ministers as members. The LOI also created a National Executive Committee (NEC) to direct, manage and supervise the program, with the president of the CESDP Alumni Association as chairman, and the senior member of the CSC as co-chairman. To manage and supervise the implementation of the program, the different ministries and agencies were directed to organize their respective executive committees. At the ministry level, the career deputy minister will be the chairman, and a representative of the CSC as co-chairman, with the heads of bureaus, offices and services as members. On the regional level, the president of the CESDP alumni chapter will serve as chairman with the CSC regional director as co-chairman and the regional directors as members. The regional director of the Ministry of Local Governments will organize provincial and city committees to implement the program. Organization of similar committees will also be carried out in state-owned and controlled corporations and state colleges.

The NEC as well as the committees of the different agencies were directed to organize secretariats to provide technical and staff support. The CSC was directed to provide training programs in cooperation with other government training centers to prepare implementors.

The Office of Media Affairs was also ordered to extend full support to the program, including the conduct of public information campaigns and the publication and distribution of GRACES handbooks and printed materials required from time to time. The minister of the budget was directed to release P900,000 to the CSC for the program, and each ministry, bureau, office, corporation, state college or university, or local government was authorized to allocate the necessary funds for the program from its annual appropriations.

All heads of ministries and offices are to extend maximum support and to actively involve all officials and employees in the GRACES program, and both the CSC and the CESDP Alumni Association will involve the following associations in the program: Bureau Directors' Association, Career Executive Service Guild, Personnel Officers Association of the Philippines, Junior Executive Services Officers Guild, Development Managers Association of the Philippines, Executive Leadership and Management Alumni Association, Future Leaders Program Alumni Association, and the Government Training Officers Association of the Philippines.

In his LOI, the President reiterated his instruction for the inclusion of a module on reorientation, including the dissemination of the Filipino ideology among government personnel in all training programs.

MARCOS DEFENDS TV CAMPAIGN; HEALTH RUMORS DENIED

HK261408 Hong Kong AFP in English 1404 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Excerpt] Manila, Dec 26 (AFP) -- President Ferdinand Marcos today defended the fact that he was conducting a re-election campaign mainly through television as he lined up support from independent M.P.'s and a minor political faction. "There's nothing sinister about this," the 68-year-old Mr Marcos said in a statement, apparently reacting to public speculation that ill health was forcing him to conduct his re-election campaign mostly on state-run television. "It is the silent machines such as the KBL's (New Society Movement) that run more smoothly, with more clockwork precision," he added. "The opposition may generate a lot of noise, but that's probably all it is going to produce -- noise."

Local and foreign press reports have said Mr Marcos was terminally ill with a degenerative disease, but his spokesmen have vehemently denied the reports. Opposition presidential contender Corazon Aquino and Salvador Laurel have drawn mammoth crowds as they criss-crossed the islands almost daily since December 12. Mr Marcos and his running mate Arturo Tolentino have so far stumped before lean crowds in two provinces for the February 7 presidential poll.

Earlier today, Mr Marcos signed a coalition agreement with eight independent legislators, and prepared to formally coalesce with an independent Nacionalista Party faction. One of the M.P.'s, Romeo Jalosjos, confirmed that the faction, which fielded the late defense Secretary Alejo Santos against Mr Marcos in the 1981 presidential elections, boycotted by the mainstream opposition, would shortly affiliate with the KBL. Most of the others who signed today's coalition agreement are former KBL members who ran against administration candidates when the KBL could not accommodate them in a May 1984 general election. Opposition M.P. Hernani Perez said the eight had joined with Mr Marcos for convenience rather than by conviction. "They joined the KBL more for publicity and the ruling party did not really gain anything since they always voted with the KBL in the Batasang Pambansa (assembly)," he said.

Mr Marcos, in power for 20 years, is cutting short his six-year term due to end in 1987 and has called a presidential election to obtain a fresh mandate amid a mounting communist rebellion and economic crisis.

CORAZON AQUINO OPENS POST-CHRISTMAS CAMPAIGN

HK261548 Hong Kong AFP in English 2546 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Olongapo, Philippines, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Opposition presidential candidate Corazon Aquino today opened her post-Christmas campaign before modest crowds in this city hosting a huge U.S. military base and nearby areas. Hushed crowds at every campaign stop listened to the 52-year-old widow's almost uniform speech recounting the hardships her family experienced under the Marcos regime. Scores of cars, horns honking and emergency lights blinking, joined her party in a five-hour motorcade which blitzed through towns and villages of Bataan and Zambales Provinces west of Manila, dotted in stretches by cheering supporters. At a dusty stretch of road in Dinalupihan town, Mrs. Aquino climbed atop an open-backed jeep and greeted crowds at the roadside through a bullhorn: "Good afternoon. My name is Cory Aquino. Please help me and Doy (Salvador) Laurel topple Marcos." Mrs. Aquino, a political novice, is running in the February 7 snap poll against President Ferdinand Marcos, whom she holds responsible for the 1983 murder of her husband, opposition leader Benigno Aquino, at Manila Airport.

A crowd of 4,000 greeted the widow at a rally in Bataan's capital town of Balanga, at least 5,000 in the town of Subic near here, while police said 10,000 jampacked an open-air auditorium here for a late-night rally. The road to this city was dotted by large streamers proclaiming "We are still for the KBL," Mr. Marcos' New Society Movement party. The mayor, Richard Gordon, was among those who nominated the president in the December 11 KBL convention. Brass bands, fireworks and chants of "Cory, Doy" greeted Mrs. Aquino at every campaign stop. Vendors had a field day selling yellow Cory Aquino caps, T-shirts, campaign pins and stickers. The widow's teen-age daughter Kris set the campaign pitch for her 52-year-old mother at every stop by singing the pop song "Tie a Yellow Ribbon 'Round the Old Oak Tree." Yellow is the symbolic color of the moderate opposition.

Introduced before crowds as the "first lady president," Mrs. Aquino centered on recollections of her husband's imprisonment when Mr. Marcos launched over eight years of martial law in 1972, while Mr. Laurel tackled political and economic issues. Mrs. Aquino repeatedly stressed she was not after vengeance but only justice for her husband and the Filipino people. She repeated vows to open the door to President Marcos' Malacanang Palace for sightseers earning eruptions of applause. In Subic she told the crowd: "I don't want revenge. All I am fighting for is justice," denying Mr. Marcos' charge that she was a "vengeful" candidate. "That's not what I said. I was asked if I would file charges against Marcos. I said all Filipinos are equal under the law. If you are at fault then you must face the law." The crowds howled with approval as she mocked the acquittal of Armed Forces chief General Fabian Ver and 25 others charged with the murder of her husband. "What does Marcos think, we are fools? Who would think that a single man could penetrate all those soldiers?" Mr. Aquino was shot dead while under heavy military guard but a trial court said a gangster later slain by soldiers was the assassin.

Mr. Laurel, commenting on Mr. Marcos' aim to seek a new mandate amid a mounting communist insurgency and economic crisis told the crowd in Balanga: "My answer to him is what can you do in six years but you were unable to do in 20 years?" He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE at least five KBL provincial governors, some KBL M.P.s and other local officials were sending feelers that they would join the opposition but said he could not announce their names because the officials were "under terrific pressure."

SPECIAL ACTION TEAMS TO COVER VOTER REGISTRATION

HK270451 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] [Words indistinct] Special action teams of the constabulary went on full alert beginning at 0800 this morning. The alert was ordered in preparation for the registration tomorrow and on Sunday of new voters. PC [Philippine Constabulary] chief Fidel Ramos ordered the creation of the teams to enforce election laws and regulations of the Comelec [Commission on Elections]. He said the teams are to be created in every regional and provincial PC command. Heading the team is a Comelec lawyer. To support the special action team, mobile forces composed of military and police personnel shall be (?at the call) of the special teams.

EDITORIAL SUPPORTS MARCOS' WARNING ON INSURGENCY

HK231505 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 23 Dec 85 p 4

[Editorial: "Reds and the Opposition"]

[Text] The warning issued by President Marcos on the dangers of misguided policy on the insurgency situation should provoke serious thought on the part of the opposition and its supporters. The Aquino-Laurel ticket has spelled out a policy of leniency and openness to rebel groups, a policy which the President has described as "dangerously naive." If victorious in the Feb. 7 presidential election, the opposition says, it will offer a general amnesty to rebel groups on condition they renounce the use of force and violence. Left-wing elements of the opposition are pushing for the legalization of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP] and its military arm, the New People's Army.

The administration position on the insurgency question has not really been devoid of leniency and openness. It is, in fact, part of the insurgency policy of the government to attract rebels back to the folds of the law and to grant amnesty to those who lay down their arms and take up peaceful pursuits. At the same time, though, the government has sought to be more realistic and firm towards those bent on overthrowing it. What the President apparently fears in the opposition's insurgency policy is its inclination to draw in the rebels and give them a share in the conduct of government. Once the insurgents are included in some sort of coalition government, which is most probably what they will demand for coming down from the hills, Mr. Marcos says they could and would easily grab power, as what happened in Nicaragua. The President believes it is wishful thinking on the part of the opposition candidates to even think that the CPP-NPA would respond seriously to an offer of amnesty. Such an offer by the opposition, if it should get into power, could open the door to a communist take-over.

VALENCIA CAUTIONS OPPOSITION ON STATEMENTS

HK230711 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0130 GMT 23 Dec 85

["Analysis of the News" by Teodoro Valencia]

[Text] We would like to add a word of caution to the opposition because of the statements that have been attributed to Cory Aquino and Doy Laurel that, once elected, they would prosecute President Marcos for the death of ex-senator Aquino, they would bring down the personnel of the national government, they would abolish excess ministries and offices, and that they would prosecute some people who are identified with the administration.

You know, we have a political history dating back to the commonwealth days of President Quezon, and [words indistinct] for the party that issues those vindictive words. I recall that during the war years, the Filipinos in exile, whom we nominated as the steak commandos, people who were eating steaks while their countrymen were starving in the Philippines, they were saying that once victory was won by the Allied forces and they were able to return to the Philippines, they would put in jail Laurel, all the members of his cabinet, and some members of the military who were identified as having accepted jobs in the Japanese-sponsored Philippine Republic. And they came, after the liberation of the Philippines, and some of them were arrogantly pointing out Filipinos whom they wanted prosecuted. In fact they put up the people's court to try almost anybody they did not like for the crime of treason. The theory was that the Filipinos who never set foot on Philippine soil during the war and who were never within 10 feet of a Japanese kempetai, that these people were patriots, and the people who were unfortunate enough to have been left enough, abandoned by the Americans and by the Philippines, were traitors.

Well, what do you know? In the election of 1946 for the presidency of the Republic of the Philippines, the collaborators won by an overwhelming vote and Roxas was installed into office, on his plea to the people that he suffered with them, and he knew the circumstances that happened here during the war years. Similarly, on every occasion, where a candidate for office swore vengeance on the people who made the mistake of being loyal to his opponent, these people lost the election. I don't want this to happen to the opposition. They should read a little history about policies in this country. You know, the people are not that gullible, they are not that stupid, they are not ignorant, they know the possible from the impossible. They know that all politicians basically are friends, whether they are in the opposition or in the majority. Do you recall a picture that was recently published by the morning papers, where Mrs Marcos was shown laughing at something, obviously with the approval of the [words indistinct] at the Manila Hotel? Well, as you can see, these politicians who breathe fire and lava as if they were going to eat up all other people who are not with them [words indistinct] they are all friends, they belong to the same fraternity, they are hardy politicians, and the people should not be fooled into believing that they are really fighting, because they are not. They are only contesting power and authority. And whichever side wins, the other side does not lose much.

ANTIGOVERNMENT SENTIMENT SPREADS IN PANGASINAN

HK260324 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Dec 85 p 18

[By Reporter Carmel M. Pizarro]

[Text] Alaminos, Pangasinan -- The seed of anti-government sentiment in this densely populated, hence vote-rich, province has been sown by Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan); and such a sentiment is gaining grounds. Bayan recently organized the Lakbay (Lakad para sa Kalayaan ng Bayan) [Walk for Freedom of the People] and initiated an anti-government rally at the town plaza which was participated in by more than 1,000 sympathizers, mostly farmers. The anti-government rally is believed to be a first in the history of this town which used to be the seat of pro-government sentiments. Lakbaya's formation and the organization of the rally were meant to protest what organizers claimed as the growing "militarization" in the western towns of Pangasinan, particularly Bugallon, Dasul, Mangatarem, and Aguilar. "Militarization of such towns hampers people's mobility," an organizer said. "Townfolks are no longer free to tend their farms for fear of being suspected as NPA sympathizers."

The recent Lakbay started from two points. One was from Mangatarem then to towns of Aguilar, Bugallon, Labrador, and Sual. About 500 sympathizers joined the rally, said a Task Force Detainee [TFD] worker in Pangasinan. The second starting point was in Sta. Cruz, Zambales, then proceeded to such towns of Pangasinan as Infanta, Dasul, Burgos and Mabini with about 1,000 participants. The two groups converged at Alaminos last Dec. 10 in time for Human Rights Day celebration. Organizers claimed that there could have been more than 10,000 participants, had they not been harassed and intimidated by the presence of military. "About 500 people were not able to come," a TFD worker told BUSINESS DAY. The TFD claimed that the most militarized area is Barangay Hacienda in Bugallon town where more than 60 families were "forced to evacuate" the sitios of Imboc and Samat. Former residents of these sitios are reportedly now living in the central part of Barangay Hacienda, others left for Urbiztondo, and Mangatarem towns. Still others "evacuated" to as far as Baguio. Continued stay in the sitios would mean being suspected of feeding the members of the New People's Army, and be subjected to military arrests.

A TFD source claimed that as an aftermath of the rally a house-to-house search was started on Dec. 8 in Barangays Milang and Benegan in Mangatarem to flush out those who joined the Lakbay rally. Alifar Vidal, chairman of Bayan in Western Pangasinan, confirmed that the biggest problem in his place is "militarization." Vidal, a kagawad [barangay official] in Dasul, also claimed that a military detachment is being planned in some barangays of Dasul. "This did not push through when the people petitioned the military not to put up a detachment since this will aggravate matters," he said. Anti-government sentiments, sources said, are growing because the farmers are made to realize the need for the lowering of prices of fertilizers and pesticides, stabilizing palay prices, lowering interest rates, lowering irrigation fees, and stopping repression of farmers.

REASONS FOR ACCREDITATION OF NAMFREL DISCUSSED

HK270859 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 26 Dec 85 p 20

[Text] The accreditation of the National Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel) as the citizens arm of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) is seen as a move by the poll body to lend credibility to the snap elections. Despite its capability to watch the polls, Namfrel was assured of accreditation only last week when no other citizens group of same caliber offered assistance to the commission (See BUSINESS DAY, Dec. 18). Comelec officially accredited the group last Tuesday. Before it was given accreditation, the poll body expressed "dislike" toward Namfrel. "they act as if they're the only ones who can make this election clean and honest," said one commissioner. "Majority of the commissioners do not like Namfrel," said another commissioner. A commissioner cited two reasons for such a dislike: (1) Namfrel seems to be partisan and (2) it has limited coverage.

About three months ago Comelec Chairman Victorino A. Savellano received reports from election registrars nationwide that Namfrel was "partisan in many areas." The registrar's report did not state which political group seemed to be biased for during the May 1984 Patasang Pambansa elections. Nevertheless, it was widely accepted in the Comelec that Namfrel appeared to have favored the opposition. A Comelec commissioner claimed that Namfrel's capability is overrated. He noted the limited participation of Namfrel in the 1984 polls. He also noted that Namfrel was active in only 22 percent of the 90,000 poll precincts. And yet Namfrel seems to be "getting all the credit," a commissioner said.

Namfrel National Chairman Jose S. Concepcion Jr. had worked hard by lobbying from the Batasang Pambansa to the Makati Business Club [MBC] for the accreditation of his group. "Credibility is what the snap polls need," Concepcion had stressed in his speeches before various forums. In his talk at the joint meeting of the Bishops Businessmen's Conference [BBC] and the MBC, Concepcion said he was "confident" of accreditation because "President Marcos said so" Only recently Concepcion, who is also the president of the Republic Flour Mills Corp., said Namfrel has "100 percent chance" of getting accredited.

Despite its hesitance, Comelec gave Namfrel accreditation. The Comelec's apparent change of heart rests on something that Namfrel has credibility and popular acceptance. [sentence as published] These two factors are needed by the poll body to lend credibility to the results of the Feb. 7 polls. According to the recent Philippine Social Science Council survey, the Comelec was distrusted by 55 percent of the respondents. The BBC survey released in August confirmed this, saying that the Comelec was considered partisan by 46 percent of those surveyed. Namfrel, on the other hand was noted to have "helped a lot in making the 1984 elections clean" by the survey respondents, with only 12 percent disagreeing.

U.S. GROUP CITED ON CONDITIONS FOR FAIR POLL

HK261444 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 1000 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] A six-member American congressional mission said that some of the conditions it outlined for the holding of fair and honest elections have not been met. It added that, so far, the administration has complied with only two of the six conditions and they are the accreditation of the National Citizens Movement for Free Elections as the citizen arm of the Commission on Elections and the designation of the United Nationalist Democratic Organization as the dominant opposition party which could lead to fair allocation of air time on the radio, television, and in the press. [Passage indistinct]

U.S. BASES UNDERLYING ISSUE IN FEB ELECTIONS

HK241348 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Dec 85 pp 5, 18

[By Reporter Abrino Aydinan]

[Text] The future of American bases in the country is an underlying, though not quite explicit, issue in the February "snap" presidential election. Both the ruling party's and the opposition's official positions have submerged the question of the U.S. bases whose presence is seen by nationalist intellectuals not only as an infringement on Philippine sovereignty but a symbol of a neocolonial social order lying at the root of the economy's ills.

The opposition's electoral campaign pitch emphasizes such issues against the government as repression, graft and corruption, cronyism, high prices, unemployment, poverty and human rights abuses under the all-embracing label of President Marcos's "dictatorial" regime which intrinsically have nothing to do with the bases issue. The bases issue, however, has been looming large in the background. It has been the subject of internal debates in the opposition ranks. Moreover, a sizable source of support for opposition presidential candidate Cory Aquino might just opt for boycott of the election over the Aquino-Laurel team's silence on the bases issue.

Ironically, it is the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL)'s platform which touches on the bases with a pledge to negotiate for more concessions from the Americans in exchange for their use of the military bases. This stand reflects an attempt to project a policy of independence vis-a-vis the U.S. which would be in keeping with the party platform of "nationalism." The stand is apparently aimed at refuting the charge of the U.S.-Marcos complicity in introducing and maintaining the "dictatorship" and, at the same time, emphasizing Marcos's charge of American partisanship on the side of the opposition.

Differences in stand about the U.S. bases has bedevilled the opposition unification process at every turn. Aquino's running mate, Salvador Laurel, and another registered candidate for vice-president, former senator Eva Estrada Kalaw, refused to sign the agreement of a Convenors Group formed early last year to prepare for a "fast track" selection of the opposition's common candidates in case of an early election such as the one now scheduled for Feb. 7. Laurel's United Nationalist Democratic Organization (Unido) and Kalaw's Liberal Party wing went on to organize a National Unification Committee which included other opposition groups with a post-martial law election track record. At the core of the disagreement was apparently the Convenors Group's call for removal of the U.S. military bases from the country. Laurel and Kalaw generally approved of the Convenors Group's position on various issues, except that on the U.S. bases Laurel, who was inexorably moving towards a presidential candidacy, declared he favored submitting the question whether to continue allowing the U.S. bases or not to a national plebiscite. Although she formed one corner of the triad Convenors Group, Aquino later declared she would tolerate the presence of the bases until the agreement with the U.S. governing their operations runs out in 1991. Significantly, Aquino supporters including staunch antibases nationalist Lorenzo Tanada suffered in ~~sit~~ their candidate's willingness to "respect" the existing bases agreement. A similarly liberal attitude towards the U.S. bases was earlier expressed in a televised interview by Jovito Salonga who moved away from the mainstream nationalist position of immediate dismantling of the U.S. bases. Apparently mindful of a U.S. role in determining the outcome of the election which is widely taken for granted, Salonga emphatically said: "I am for respecting the bases agreement until 1991. Period." Before the statement, Salonga had gained an association with the radical nationalist position, including the one that exhibited overt hostility towards the bases. Salonga, whose own wing of the Liberal Party formed part of the Laban ng Bayan [Laban -- People Struggle] coalition which originally drafted Aquino for president, was about to be chosen Aquino's running mate before her reconciliation with Laurel. When Aquino agreed to become Unido's guest standard bearer to satisfy Laurel's demand, the Laban coalition declared it would withhold support from Laurel while continuing to endorse Aquino.

In an interesting turn of events, the Laban rebellion in the Aquino camp has become the vehicle of nationalist groups, including the boycott-leaning radical Bagong Alyansang Makabayan [Bayan -- New Nationalist Alliance] in trying to inject their pet issues into the election campaign. A flurry of behind-the-scenes negotiations have produced an alliance of sorts between Salonga, who has not withdrawn his candidacy for the vice-presidency, Bayan, the Kilusan sa Kapangyarihan at Karapatan ng Bayan [Movement for People's Power and Rights] of former Senator Jose Diokno and other cause-oriented groups. The combination of Salonga's potential vote-getting ability against Laurel, and Bayan's threat to boycott the election is calculated to exert pressure on Laurel to accommodate the nationalists' demands. From all appearances, the negotiations have narrowed down to the inclusion of a "more nationalist position" on the U.S. bases in a revised Unido platform, as both sides have reportedly compromised on such other major questions as the repudiation of country's foreign debt.

SOVIET EMBASSY REJECTS NPA PLEA FOR SUPPORT

HK270809 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 25 Dec 85 pp 1, 10

[Text] The Soviet Union has rejected overtures for support made by purported representatives of the New People's Army (NPA) to the Soviet Embassy in Manila. To do otherwise would reportedly be a breach of existing covenants between the Soviet Union and the Philippines based on non-interference and mutual respect. This was the message conveyed by Ambassador Yuriy Sholmov to Labor Minister Blas F. Ople during a farewell call at the Ministry of Labor and Employment offices. Sholmov closed today a four-year-and-three-month tour of duty in Manila when he departs for Moscow on a home assignment. Sholmov told Ople, a recent visitor to Moscow, that "we do not countenance proposals of this nature which contravene good relations with your great country." The ambassador said the Soviet leadership holds President Marcos in high regard and considers friendly relations with the Philippines a basic tenet of Soviet policy in Southeast Asia. Sholmov said the 26th congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union clearly defined a policy of promoting friendly relations with member-states of the Association of Southeast Nations, including the Philippines, to guide Soviet policy in the region.

Ople congratulated Sholmov for his contributions to Philippine-Soviet friendship, noting that in the past four years, the volume of cultural exchanges between the two countries has multiplied, although trade exchanges have lagged. Ople later told reporters that the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) headed by Rodolfo Salas continues to debate the proposition that the CPP-NPA should seek Soviet support. This had reportedly prompted Jose Ma Sison, alleged CPP chairman in detention, to issue a statement warning the party "not to embrace the Soviet Union" because this would stifle the "national democratic movement." The faction of Salas, Ople noted, advanced the line that the Nicaragua Sandinists could sustain their revolution because of Soviet support, and that the Philippines communists should consider the same approach.

The labor minister said the Soviet leadership has conveyed to President Marcos "consistent messages" that they would not interfere with the country's internal affairs, not only because this is their policy but also because the covenants between the two countries, based on noninterference, should be kept unsullied. Ople led a parliamentary delegation that held dialogues with members of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow. In that forum, Soviet parliamentarians forcefully asserted that from Moscow's principled point of view, "revolution is not for export," leaving the inference that the Filipino people should determine their own affairs, it was reported.

In the Philippines, it is known that the CPP-NPA from its inception was Maoist-inspired and its publications still identify its ideology as "Marxist-Leninist-Mao Zedong Thought." It split off on Dec 26 1969 from the original Partido Komunistang Pilipinas (PKP) which renounced its armed struggle for a parliamentary one. This traditional party is known to accept Soviet influence in its political line.

VER ORDERS RED ALERT IN NPA-TROUBLED AREAS

HK270355 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0300 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] All military camps and police stations in insurgency troubled areas have been placed on red alert. AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief General Fabian Ver made the move in anticipation of an upsurge in terrorism of the communist movement which marked its foundation day yesterday. In Metro Manila, government troops and policemen were placed on (?blue) or half alert. General Ver said that the communists are expected to go on rampage with the holiday season.

NPA, MNLF GUERRILLAS KILL 25 IN SEPARATE AMBUSHES

HK181221 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 17 Dec 85 pp 1, 5

[By Daniel Florida]

[Text] Twenty-five people were killed and 57 others were wounded in two ambuscades staged by rebels last Saturday and yesterday morning in the Mountain Province and Lanao del Norte.

Killed in yesterday's ambush in Munai, Lanao del Norte, which was reportedly staged by some 300 terrorists of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF], were 16 people. At least 35 others were wounded. Most of the victims were workers of the FMTC logging firm based in Lolambungan, Lanao del Norte. The rest were soldiers and militiamen detailed with the army's 40th Infantry Battalion. Military sources expressed fear that the death toll might rise following field reports that more bodies were still being retrieved yesterday afternoon from the ambush site, 18 kilometers from Kolambungan. The identities of the victims were not immediately available. The wounded are now being treated in various hospitals in Iligan City.

Ambushed were about 300 workers of the logging firm and an escort team composed of soldiers and militiamen. They were in a convoy of four dump trucks and an armored personnel carrier on its way to the FMTC logging area in Munai when the MNLF rebels, many of them armed with M-60 and M-203 grenade launchers, staged the assault. The soldiers and militiamen were able to return fire engaging the terrorists in a 30-minute gunbattle reports said.

Nine soldiers were killed and 22 others were wounded by about 50 New People's Army guerrillas in the Mountain Province ambush last Saturday, Camp Aguinaldo said yesterday. The victims, had just come from Bugnay and were on their way to Tabrak aboard a six-by-six truck and a V-150 Chymite armored vehicle when they were waylaid at around 5 am. Brig Gen Tomas Dumpit, Regional Unified Command I Chief, in a sketchy report to Gen Fabian C. Ver, Armed Forces Chief of Staff, identified the dead as Sgt Maximo Corpuz, Sgt Cecilio Lasmarias, T/Sgt Jorge Corpuz, Cpl Anrasel Bayaga, Cpl Perlito Blanza, PFC Rodolfo Octabiano and PFC Amor Santos of the Army; and C1C [Constable First Class] Jovitino Agravate and C1C Jose Encarnacion of the PC [Philippine Constabulary]. The wounded, two of them said to be officers, were not identified. Dumpit said five of them are now at the provincial hospital in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, and the rest at the provincial hospital in Bontoc. The V-150 carrying some of the victims fell into a ravine during the ambush, it was also learned.

That same day, at around 1:20 pm in Barangay Lalawigan, Samal, Bataan, an army major, four enlisted men and a health worker were shot to death and the wife of an army captain was wounded in another ambush by suspected NPAs. Killed in the ambush were Maj Emmanuel Jimenez, chief of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Civil Relations Group in Central Luzon; Sgt Virgilio Rauro, Sgt Reynaldo Lambino, S/Sgt Romeo Ramos, Cpl Rentao Beltran and Dory Villanueva, employee of the provincial health office in Balanga, Bataan. Wounded was Rose Muhammad, wife of army Capt Musa Muhammad.

Belated reports reaching Camp Aguinaldo yesterday said 23 rebels were killed in separate encounters over the past 72 hours between government troops and NPA bands in Barangay Rizal, Manay, Davao Oriental, and Barangay Lowe Talacogon, Lugait, Misamis Oriental. Last Friday, at around 5 pm, about 30 suspected NPAs raided Barangay Divisoria, Mexico, Pampanga, and disarmed four CHDF [Civilian Home Defence Forces].

GUERRILLAS RELEASE KIDNAPPED GOVERNMENT WORKERS

HK260813 Bagupan City DZDL Radio in Tagalog 0445 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] From Cagayan De Oro City, it was reported that six more government employees captured by communist guerrillas to pressure the military into halting its counter-insurgency operations were released last Wednesday after some 3 weeks in captivity. However, the condition of seven other hostages remains unknown. According to reports, the six were set free in a place near Balingasag, Misamis Oriental, 470 miles southwest of Manila. It is near the province where terrorists recently murdered 36 persons suspected of being military informers. A seventh hostage had been released earlier on Tuesday because he was thought by the kidnappers to be ill. All 14 Public Highway Ministry employees from Gingoog City were kidnapped on 6 December while working on bridges near the city. Two of the remaining hostages were based in the city engineer's office. One of those released last Wednesday, Francisco Tumunog, told reporters at the governor's residence that they were made to walk all night before being set free at 0600 Christmas Day. Tumunog appeared exhausted and had rope marks on his wrists and arms. Later, the governor ordered that the released hostages be confined in the city hospital for a general checkup.

NPA LIQUIDATION SQUAD KILLS 2 IN ANGELES CITY

HK260700 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0400 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] In Camp Olivas, Pampanga, an army colonel and constabulary sergeant were killed in separate incidents by New People's Army liquidation squad in Angeles City, Bulacan. Reports received in Camp Olivas said Lieutenant Colonel Jesus Caligagan, chief of the Inspector General's Office in Camp Olivas, was attending an evening wedding ceremony at the Holy Rosary Church in Angeles City when he was shot at close range by a member of the NPA Sparrow Unit. Meantime, Bulacan PC [Philippine Constabulary] provincial commander Cesar Alvarez said that another NPA shot and killed Sergeant Rene Escudero in barangay (?Gundog) in Bocaue, Bulacan last Tuesday. Reports said Escudero had just alighted from his motorcycle when seven rebels on board a Fiera jeepney fired at him.

12 INJURED IN GRENADE BLAST IN COTABATO CITY

HK261118 Hong Kong AFP in English 1116 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Manila, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Twelve people were wounded when an unknown man lobbed a grenade at a crowd in a southern city, the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY (PNA) reported here today. The state-run agency said the blast occurred yesterday along a crowded street in Cotabato City, 850 kilometers (510 miles) south of here on rebellion-torn Mindanao Island. It said some of those injured were standing on the sidewalk and waiting for a ride home. The blast disrupted the police force's Christmas party elsewhere, PNA added. The motive of the attack could not be immediately established. Military spokesmen here could not immediately confirm the report. Mindanao is the hotbed of the communist New People's Army and Moslem separatists belonging to the Moro National Liberation Front.

NPA GUERRILLAS MARK CPP ANNIVERSARY WITH AMBUSH

HK261014 Hong Kong AFP in English 1011 GMT 26 Dec 85

[Text] Bacolod, Philippines, Dec 26 (AFP) -- Communist guerrillas killed seven security troops in an ambush today to mark the 17th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP), left-wing sources said here.

The sources, known to be sympathetic to the banned CPP's New People's Army (NPA), said NPA Guerrillas had ambushed seven men of the paramilitary Philippine Constabulary as they left a plantation near Manapla town, some 450 kilometers (280 miles) south of Manila on the depressed island of Negros. Negros military commander Colonel Isagani De Los Santos and constabulary chief colonel Arnulfo Obillos could not be reached for comment here, and officers at their headquarters made no comment on the claim.

Earlier today several military helicopters were seen hovering over Manapla, which lies north of Bacolod, the island capital. The sources told reporters here that two NPA squads had waylaid the troopers at dawn. They did not say if any guerrillas had been killed or wounded. The sources said the attack had been made to commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the party on December 26, 1968. The NPA has in recent months made spectacular attacks on military installations on Negros, the country's sugar bowl, where a crisis in the sugar industry caused by high production costs and low prices resulted in 50,000 sugar workers being laid off in May.

CHINESE BUSINESSMEN IN CEBU ASKED TO SUPPORT CPP

HK231001 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 21 Dec p 3

[By Leo Enriquez]

[Text] Cebu City -- Chinese-Filipino Businessmen in Metro Cebu were asked recently to support financially the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) and the Bagong Hukbo ng Bayan [New People's Army] (BHB). Several businessmen received solicitation letters signed by a certain "Ka [Comrade] Amado Pinguel," deputy secretary for finance of the CPP-BHB Metro Cebu Urban party committee. Names of the businessmen were withheld by the military for security purposes. Pinguel's letter warned businessmen that their establishments are vulnerable to small-scale BHB operations and the lawmen could not protect them to the last split second. He explained that they do not intend to threaten or harm people but are even considerate and reasonable by communicating with them. Pinguel stressed that the solicitation letter should not be considered as an act of extortion as the communists are very much against it. He further warned of extreme dangers faced by their establishments and the businessmen themselves if they notify the military authorities abt it. Pinguel claimed in his solicitation letter that most of the business firms in Metro Cebu were already in good rapport with them (rebels).

ROUNDUP OF SUCCESSFUL AFP OPERATIONS FOR AUG-OCT

HK230832 Davao City PEOPLE's DAILY FORUM in English 3 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] Pagadian City -- 18 NPA's led by Rogelio Isaga, alias Commander Dingo, overall Comdr of the NPA Front II and NPA Intelligence Chief Benjamin Dagaton, alias Comdr Ronnie, were slain by troopers of the 461st PC [Philippine Constabulary] Co. on Aug 1. 22 rebels, 10 in Bacong, Tulunan, Maguindanao, 5 in Cabanatuan City, 2 in Gen. Santos City, & 5 in Ilocos region were slain by government troopers on August 4. Suspected rebels were killed and 13 others were wounded in 3 encounters 5 between PC troopers and the NPA in barangay San Lorenzo, Ilagan, Isabela last August 5.

At least 16 NPA men, 3 army soldiers and 2 paramilitary men were killed while 30 rebels and 20 gov't. troopers were wounded in 3 separate gunbattles last August 5 in the outskirts of Makilala and Tulunan towns, North Cotabato. 50 NPA members and 5 Army troopers were killed in a 10-day in Bannayal, New Panay and Tulunan, Cotabato in early August. 9 NPA guerrillas were killed and one Carmela Orjela alias Kumander Gino, head of semilegal team was captured during a military operation in the Northeastern Mindanao last August. 15 rebels 4 in Sta. Ana, Pampanga. 8 in Butuan City and 3 NPA amazons were identified as Cerelinda Malone, alias Leah Fernandez, Gabina Aloro and a certain Ester. Rebel leader Lorenzo Briones, alias Commander Rico, and 4 others identified as Elmer Gomez, Bing, Jack and Benjie died in a gunfight with the first scout ranger battalion in Davao City on September 7.

5 NPA rebels led by Unkad Makalasi alias Commander Jabar were killed in two separate clashes with the 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion in Misamis Oriental last September 6. A 16 hour encounter between 53rd Infrantry Battalion and about 100 rebels in Barangay Pagucboc, Opol, Catayan de Oro resulted in the death of 50 NPA rebels last September 19. 25 NPA rebels were killed in a one hour gunbattle between government troopers in Barangay Andap, San Agustin Surigao del Sur, last September 22. 50 NPA rebels were killed in a series of gunbattles with 47th Infantry Battalion in the towns of Altavas, Tapaz, Ibajay and Libaco Kalibo, Aklan. NPA leaders Alexander Navarro alias Commander Saulo and Pablo Estande known as Commander Ramil and 30 others were killed when airborne troopers ambushed a truck-load of NPA guerrillas at Sitio Ancap, Barangay Mison, Davao Oriental last October 3.

15 NPA's were killed, a woman and 27 assorted weapons was captured by an AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Scout Ranger team during an ambush in Barangay Flormina, Mondragon, Northern Samar last October 10. 8 communist guerrillas were killed and 12 others were captured in separate encounters made by the 1/4 Army Brigade, 2nd Scout Ranger Battalion and CHDF [Civilian Home Defense Force] in Misamis Oriental last October 12. 14 communist rebels were killed by the 1st composite Infantry Battalion troopers in 23 day encounter in Southern Mindanao last October.

CASUALTY FIGURES FOR CAGAYAN VALLEY REPORTED

HK231057 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 21 Dec 85 p 8

[By Ellen Gallardo]

[Text] Echague, Isabela -- The New People's Army (NPA) suffered 232 fatalities, while the government lost 123 soldiers in 182 encounters between the rebels and the military for the past six months in Cagayan Valley, the military reported yesterday. Brig. Gen. Alexander L. Felix, Region 2 unified commander, said that of the 182 encounters, 63 were initiated by the rebels. The clashes also resulted in the wounding of 136 rebels and 117 soldiers. Felix said the latest ambush by the NPA was staged last Saturday. It claimed the lives of nine soldiers. Twenty-one other soldiers were wounded in the ambush which took place in Tabbrak, Sadanga, Bontoc. During the same period, 700 subversives and 50 armed regulars surrendered at the various military camps in the region.

Military reports showed that 50 NPA armed regulars and 450 subversives were captured in 119 government-initiated encounters. Felix said Elmer Bulan, a team leader of the Isabela province Sandatang Yunit Pangguerilla [armed guerilla unit] (SYP), was the latest rebel to renounce the NPA ideology. He surrendered last Dec. 11 to elements of the military intelligence group (MIG) in Cauyan Isabela.

Felix also reported the busting of a multimillion peso marijuana planting syndicate reported in Kalinga-Apayao. He said this was one of the revenue sources of the NPA. This delayed the rebels' timetable for expansion and operations in Region 2, he added.

IMPROVEMENTS IN NPA FIELD OPERATIONS NOTED

HK230856 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 21 Dec 85 p 4

[Text] Senior military field officers in Northern Mindanao have observed improvements in the guerrilla operations of the New People's Army, noting particularly a radio system and a seaborne force. However, preemptive measures have been instituted to neutralize this, they said. In a command conference in Surigao City recently, military officers in Northern Mindanao led by Brig Gen Benjamin Ignacio, 10th PC [Philippine Constabulary] Regional Command chief, told Lt Gen Fidel V. Ramos, AFP [Armed Force of the Philippines] vice chief of staff, that the communist rebels were now more capable of monitoring movements of government troops. The insurgents have developed this capability with the use of two-way radio on fixed frequencies, they said. With this, the rebels are able at times to mount raids and ambushes "with precision and almost at will."

The officers also told Ramos that the communists' Northeastern Mindanao Regional Party Committee had already deployed in Surigao del Norte a seaborne force under the socalled "Bagong Navy ng Bayan" (BANABA). This force is still small, using not more than four pumpboats, but it has enabled the insurgents to step up their maritime activities, including piracy, a source said.

Meanwhile, a related military report said four troopers and an NPA surrenderer were killed and two rebels were captured in separate attacks by dissidents in Western and Northern Samar last Sunday. The Regional Unified Command in Eastern Visayas identified the dead as Privates First Class Nestor Baioco and Kerry Benito and Privates Zaldy Valdez and Juanito Valencia, all of Charlie Company, 20th Infantry Battalion, based in Barangay Cansolabao, Hinabangan, Western Samar, and Edgar Araza, the NPA surrenderer. About 200 rebels attacked the company's detachment at around 3 p.m. Sunday, catching it manned by only 10 troopers -- the four slain soldiers and six companions who were, however, out on patrol, the PHILIPPINES NEWS AGENCY reported. The attackers left after gunning down the four soldiers and setting the detachment on fire.

VER SAYS MILITARY ATTACHES TO BE RECALLED

HK241522 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 24 Dec 85 p 8

[Text] Many military attaches assigned abroad will be recalled to assist in the government's counter insurgency drive, Gen Fabian Ver, Armed Forces chief of staff, disclosed yesterday. Ver said the posts vacated by attaches will be replaced by those assigned in neighboring or adjoining countries. At the same time, he said he was renewing an appeal to President Marcos for the pullout of AFP officers and men assigned in civil agencies of government and their return to the AFP for purely military duties. Ver explained that only the President could order the recall of the AFP officers as it was him who detailed them to the civilian offices and government-owned or controlled corporations during the martial law regime. He said "the martial necessity for the assignment of the military men" in government offices is over.

MILITARY INTENSIFIES CAMPAIGN AGAINST MILF

HK161551 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 16 Dec 85 p 1

[Text] The military has intensified its intelligence operations to keep track of the activities of secessionist rebels in Mindanao as part of a tactical move to prevent them from triggering violence in the coming elections. Informed sources in Camp Aguinaldo told the TIMES JOURNAL yesterday that the move was prompted by reports that the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) in particular is threatening to go to war against the government next year. "Even as the MILF is said to be preparing for a jihad or Islamic holy war, the military is not discounting the possibility that the MILF rebels might also engage in violent activities for partisan political reasons," one of the sources said. "So far, there have been no developments indicative of such possibility, but the military is not taking any chances," the source added.

The MILF, led by Hashim Salamat, is one of two groups -- the other is the reformist secessionist group under Dimas Pundato -- that broke away from Nur Misuari's Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF). Claiming to have an armed force of 40,000 under its Bangsa Moro Islamic Army (BMIA) which is said to be headed by Al Hadj Murad, the MILF recently warned that it will go into full-scale battle "after 1985" allegedly because the government has failed to comply with the agreement for autonomy for Southern Philippines, which was signed in Libya in 1976. Military sources said the MILF's claim that the Salamat faction now has an army bigger than those of the Misuari and Pundato factions combined. Intelligence reports also show that the MILF-BMIA has stepped up its recruitment activities to get more "mujahideen" or holy war fighters, the sources added.

Meanwhile, the PC [Philippine Constabulary] Regional Command in Central Mindanao said that the MILF-BMIA has three committees in the region:

-- The "Kutawato" committee, with Mustafa Kamid Ustadz Castro as acting chairman, under which are six zones headed by Kusain Tapa, Mosanip Solaiman, Macmod Samad, Achmad Abdullah, Bobby Bugawas and Mustafa Aton.

-- The "Ranao Norte" committee headed by Alim Ansari Mutia, with four zones led by Ustadz Masud Batuan, Dituaguan Batingulo, Said Ali Markarimband and Omar Bebarosan.

-- The "Ranao Sur" committee under Alim Adzi, Mimbartas, with five zones headed by Mauti Badai, Pucaan Radiomoda, Hasser Arafat, Amai Sumpa and Baguan Tanggol.

AFP RANGERS OVERCOME MNLF AMBUSH IN MINDANAO

HK171107 Manila METRO MANILA TIMES in English 16 Dec 85 pp 1, 5

[By Arnold Atadero]

[Text] Army Scout Rangers manning an advanced command post near the Lake of Buluan, Maguindanao recently killed with their 155 mm howitzers about 60 Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels who tried to ambush two convoys of soldiers aboard two motorized pumpboats. This was reported yesterday by Brig Gen Cesar Tapia, military commander of Region 12 (Central Mindanao), which has jurisdiction over Maguindanao.

In his report to Gen Fabian Ver, AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] Chief of Staff, Tapia said the gun battle occurred across the Lake of Buluan between about 100 MNLF rebels and Scout Rangers under the 38th Army Battalion at 11:30 am last December 8. Tapia told Ver that the enemy suffered about 60 deaths, 20 of whom were left by their companions who fled towards the hilltop of Buluan. There were no reports of casualties on the government side.

Tapia said the clash started when the armed rebels fired at the two army convoys aboard the two pumpboats which carried supplies, including ammunition and weapons. The army troopers, who were on "logistics run" mission, fought back with .30 caliber machine guns. During the exchange of fire, the outnumbered soldiers radioed for help from the command post. Having established the exact location of the enemy on an elevated position on land, the soldiers manning the command post started delivering 155 mm howitzers. One of the primary interests of the rebels in carrying out the ambush was to get the supplies of firearms and bullets which the convoys had procured from the other side of the lake.

The convoys were proceeding back to their command post when the ambush took place. Tapia said about 20 rebels were killed in the opening salvo. The distance of the enemy from the command post was several hundred yards away, it was reported. Tapia said the second salvo zeroed in on the rebels who sought shelter in three huts. About 30 were killed in the second salvo, according to Tapia. Ten more rebels were reported killed in the succeeding shoot-out. Reports said the rest of the rebels escaped from the place where they waited in ambush for the convoys and boarded two pumpboats. This prompted the convoys to give chase. However, heavy rains prevented the troopers from further conducting pursuit operations which were resumed when the weather improved, Tapia told Ver.

146 COMBAT TRUCKS SENT TO VISAYAS, MINDANAO

BK241423 Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 24 Dec 85 p 3

[Text] Commo Serapio C. Martillano, deputy chief of staff for logistics, said yesterday that 146 M35 combat trucks were shipped last night to the Armed Forces field units in Visayas and Mindanao in a unrelenting effort to improve the operational effectiveness of the combat units directly involved in counter-insurgency in those areas. Martillano said the 146 M35 combat trucks were loaded in five Philippine Navy ships which will unloaded the trucks in Iloilo, Cebu, Tacloban, Cagayan de Oro, Zamboanga City, Davao City, Cotabato and Palawan. Martillano also said that with this delivery of M35 trucks to combat units in Visayas and Mindanao he Army and Marine battallions in those areas are expected to have an average of six 2-1/2 ton combat trucks per battalion while the provincial command will have an average of 3 trucks each.

DEFECTOR SAYS NPA EXECUTED 36 RECRUITS

HK251130 Hong Kong AFP in English 1123 GMT 25 Dec 85

[Text] Butuan, Philippines, Dec 25 (AFP) -- Communist New People's Army (NPA) insurgents have executed 36 young recruits on suspicion that they were working for the military, military officials said today. The 36 young recruits, their arms bound behind their backs, were lined up at a village near this southern city earlier this month and shot by a guerrilla firing squad, the officials said, quoting Mariano Sollano, a former guerrilla who defected to the government. Mr Sollano, 37, told military investigators he was willing to guide soldiers to a common grave in the area to exhume and identify the bodies.

The NPA is the military wing of the banned Communist Party of the Philippines. Butuan lies 775 kilometers (465 miles) south of Manila in the north of Mindanao, a large island where many of the NPA's 15,000 guerrillas are said to be deployed. The victims were suspected "deep penetration agents" of the military and were executed after they failed to carry out an ambush mission last month in the nearby province of Agusan Del Sur, Mr Sollano reportedly said. Mr Sollano, who defected to the government soon after the alleged execution because his colleagues also suspected him of being a military agent, said he surrendered because he "could not tolerate such carnage in our ranks."

COMMUNIST LEADER CALIS ELECTION 'RIDICULOUS'

HK231245 Hong Kong AFP in English 1204 GMT 23 Dec 85

[Text] Hong Kong, Dec 23 (AFP) -- An opposition victory in the forthcoming Philippine presidential election would not bring about a fundamental change in the country's traditional politics, Filipino communist leader Satur Ocampo has told the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW. Mr Ocampo made his remarks, published in the latest issue of the Hong Kong-based newsweekly, in his first interview since escaping from nine years of detention in May. Describing the February 7 polls as a "ridiculous exercise," he said a victory by Corazon Aquino, widow of President Ferdinand Marcos' slain archrival Benigno Aquino, would not result in the fundamental changes in the country's traditional politics sought by the communist insurgency. He said he saw Nicaragua as the best model of a communist regime for the Philippines. He also said the communist New People's Army (NPA) -- the military wing of the banned Communist party of the Philippines -- was getting more recruits than it could arm and predicted the insurgency would continue to grow in the next three to four years. The NPA has an estimated 15,000 guerrillas operating in 63 of the country's 75 provinces.

ISABELA GOVERNOR URGES COOPERATION AGAINST NPA

HK181426 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 18 Dec 85 p 8

[By Antenor B. Parazo]

[Text] Cauayan, Isabela -- Gov. Faustino N. Dy has warned the Isabela citizenry that unless it cooperated fully with the military and the police in the campaign against dissidents, it would one day find itself at the mercy of the communists. The governor issued the warning in a press statement as New People's Army presence had been sighted in several barangays of the province, particularly in the capital town of Ilagan, San Mariano and the coastal municipalities of Divilacan and Dinapique, this province. The sightings had been reported lately to Gov. Dy by the mayors of these towns, who had requested the governor to make representations with the military for more arms provisions for their police forces.

The people must have to unite [as published] and rally to the military in fighting off the NPA-communist threat "in order to save the future of your children from the perils of communism," Gov. Dy said. Success in the fight against insurgency, the governor said, will ensure the holding of clean and orderly elections, referring to the snap poll for the presidency and the vice presidency Feb. 7 next year. Gov. Dy recalled that in the 1984 elections, the rebels had done everything they could instill fear among the people with threats of going after those inclined to vote for candidates of the administration.

Only the alertness of the Constabulary and the police prevented what could have been a dissident-influenced election, said the governor. "Let us not allow this to happen again," the governor urged the citizenry in this province, referring to the reported attempt of rebels to re-install themselves in Isabela.

QUEZON GOVERNOR SAYS PROVINCE ATTRACTIVE TO NPA

HK241403 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Dec 85 p 18

[Text] Lucena City -- Quezon Gov. Eladio Caliware said the province is an attractive area for communist terrorists because of its unique situation and physical features. Caliware said Quezon, which is bounded by the Sierra Madre mountains and the Bicol provinces is vulnerable to attack. At the same time, Caliware said, the province serves as an excellent exit and escape route for the rebels. Caliware added that Quezon presents itself an attraction to the terrorists because of the hospitality of its people, its rich natural resources and unsolved agrarian problems, particularly in the Bondoc peninsula. He said the New People's Army cannot afford a prolonged confrontation with the military.

Caliware has suggested fight programs designed to combat insurgency in this Southern Tagalog province. Build a network of roads that will link the urban areas to the barangays to enhance the mobility of the Armed Forces. Formulate solutions to agrarian problems. Dispatch military men who can establish rapport with the masses. Pursue social and health services in remote areas of the province. Launch a continuing information and education program that should reach the barangays. Implement program and projects that will augment the income of coconut farmers. Close all possible exit and escape routes and inculcate in the minds of the people that there is not better place to live in where freedom and justice prevails.

METRO MANILA TIMES ON NPA'S 'TOTAL WAR'

HK191536 METRO MANILA TIMES in English 19 Dec 85 p 4

[Editorial: "NPA'S Total War"]

[Text] In contrast to the policy of moderation followed by the government military forces in the campaign against insurgency, the New People's Army, the military arm of the Communist Party of the Philippines [CPP], has given every indication that it is conducting a total war because it hardly differentiates now between government and non-government targets, between soldiers and civilians. Thus it is we find that in many ambushes pulled off by the NPA there are invariably civilians, including women and children, killed along with the soldiers. This happens because farm folk often hitch rides with soldiers heading for town or their camp, which often are located near towns and markets.

Lately in Mindanao, NPA forces have been harassing logging companies and other industrial enterprises which operate in the hinterlands, or in places well out of reach of police and constabulary. The communist bands who operate around the area solicit monthly contributions from private enterprises, based in the same area, or else --! In one recent case, the communists kidnapped some 30 workers of a logging company, then demanded P300,000 for their release. The company held out, infuriating the NPA band concerned.

But because the rebels could not kill helpless civilians in cold blood, which would certainly deface their image as friend of the oppressed, they were forced to release the hostages unharmed. But the insurgents got back at the logging company by sabotaging equipment worth P20 million. But whenever they are hemmed in, the NPA forces make war on the civilian population, too, as when the rebels find that a certain rural community, resist all their wiles and importunings, giving neither cash contributions nor aid and comfort to rebel bands, indeed even reporting rebel movements to the authorities. That is when the NPA disregards all ground rules, including that of preserving the goodwill of the people, by raiding the offending town or village, and killing people at random.

If the NPA and the CPP are sincere about the value they give to the welfare and dignity of the poor and the oppressed, especially workers, they would do all they can, in the manner of government forces, to avoid the unnecessary killing of civilians, indeed of bringing any harm to non-combatants. But that does not seem to be the case always, either through the ineptitude or bloodthirst of certain NPA groups, as witnessed in the wanton killing or wounding of civilians in ambuscades laid by the rebels. Compassion alone should stay the hand of such assailants once they note that civilians are among the passengers of an army vehicle. What if four or six soldiers escape the trap if the lives of twice that number of civilians are saved? It is the kind of dirty war that should spur the government forces to greater efforts in winning the struggle and restoring to the countryside peace and order.

TIMES JOURNAL URGES MILITARY TO SCREEN 'SURRENDERERS'

HK181544 Manila TIMES JOURNAL in English 18 Dec 85 p 6

[Editorial: "Military Should Learn From Mistakes"]

[Text] For the past year or so, we have been hearing military authorities declare that the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front's awesome war machine has been crippled with the irreconcilable split in the MNLF ranks and the almost daily stream of front regulars and sympathizers "returning to the fold of the law." These bold assessments were "confirmed" by some "returning" high-ranking supreme Nur Misuari, who were given the singular honor of being brought to Malacanang to personally convey their thanks to the President for the many development programs the administration had been pursuing in Mindanao. In fact, many of such surrenderers were even asking arms from the government to enable them to fight alongside government troops against terrorists of the New People's Army who had introduced into Mindanao. They made much of Muslims' "hatred" for communism to support their request. Many military authorities fell for it but the President, after assessing such request, turned it down.

It now appears that the President's decision was right. Recent developments have shown that the MNLF machine is far from rusty, least of all, crippled. There are persistent reports that many of the so-called surrenderers have gone back to the hills after failing to get more concessions from the government. A report the other day, coming from military sources no less, that a group of 300 secessionist rebels armed with M-60 and M-203 grenade launchers, among other weapons, is proof. A group that can mobilize 300 men for one attack and armed with powerful weapons at that is certainly far from its death throes. Compounding the government problem on the MNLF is the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, a splinter group but which shares the MNLF's secessionist aims and which, sources said, appears to be more ruthless.

The MNLF is said to have claimed that it has 40,000 armed regulars and while the military was once more quick to dismiss the claim as exaggerated, it would do well for the higherups to advise their men to withhold judgment until they investigate.

What all these recent developments seem to show is that while we must welcome back to the fold of the law those who are genuinely willing to lead peaceful, normal lives again, such welcome should not preclude some sort of "security check" to determine whether or not the "surrenderers" are really such and not infiltrators or opportunists who are only taking advantage of the government's often too generous terms for them. We hate to say it but the military should have learned by now after being taken in several times.

We are again reminded of confessions made by captured terrorists of the NPA that many of their comrades had "surrendered" not out of disenchantment with the movement but to infiltrate the military and learn of its troop deployment and other strategic counter-insurgency plans. Large-scale ambuscades of our troops are tragic proofs of this military folly.

CHDF HARASSMENT OF CEBU FARMERS REPORTED

HK240843 Quezon City Maharlika Broadcasting System in English 0700 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Military authorities in Cebu will look into the complaints of harassment by members of the Civilian Home Defense Force [CHDF] against farmers from Balamban in that province. The alleged harassment is brought to the attention of military officials by Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Vidal. About 100 farmers, including their wives and children, have evacuated to Cebu City since 4 October after a series of killings erupted in Balamban. The farmers alleged that they have been harassed by paramilitary men who suspected some of them as members of the New People's Army. Lieutenant Colonel Canzon, Cebu PC [Philippine Constabulary] commander, said he would provide constabulary escorts to farmers who fled their home so they can return to their houses safely.

VER ACCEPTS TRUCKS FOR COUNTERINSURGENCY DRIVE

HK270448 Quezon City Maharlika Boradcasting System in English 0400 GMT 27 Dec 85

[Text] One hundred thirteen more combat trucks are being sent to AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] units for next year. The deliveries are expected to bolster the on-going counterinsurgency campaign. Earlier, 558 combat trucks were delivered to the AFP this year after being reconditioned. AFP chief Fabian Ver accepted the delivery of the truck shipments.

PLANS TO DIVERSIFY OIL-BASED ECONOMY ANNOUNCED

HK241058 Hong Kong AFP in English 1009 GMT 24 Dec 85

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 24 (AFP) -- Brunei has announced a new development plan aimed at diversifying its oil-based economy, BERNAMA NEWS AGENCY reported today. The agency cited Brunei's minister of development, Pehin Awang Abdul Rahman Mohamed as saying the 1.8 billion dollar plan was over a five year period, starting next year.

Mr Abdul Rahman said the uncertainty in oil prices and the country's heavy dependence on oil left no other alternative but to develop its own non-oil exports. However, a spokeswoman for the Brunei economic planning unit said the country would continue to maintain its oil production at 150,000 barrels a day until 1988. The plan includes the setting up of a development bank and a monetary authority for the oil-rich sultanate.

Brunei, with a population of only 200,000, has one of the highest per capita income in the world.

KIRIBATIPRESIDENT TABAI VIEWS USSR FISHING ACCORD

OW250605 Tokyo NHK Television Network in Japanese 1200 GMT 24 Dec 85

[From "News Center 9" program]

[Excerpts] [Announcer Kimura] While the United States is taking steps to ensure the rapid deployment of military units in the Pacific in the event of emergency, the Soviet Union is resorting to all possible means to secure its presence in the Pacific region, which is, in a sense, the home ground of the United States, turning the South Pacific paradise into a race track between the superpowers. This race has become a reality in the Republic of Kiribati in the Central Pacific.

The republic signed a fishing agreement with the Soviet Union this year, which shocked the United States. President Reagan reportedly took up this issue with General Secretary Gorbachev at their recent summit talks. Here is a report by correspondent Okamoto who covers news in Kiribati, which got itself involved in the race between the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

[Okamoto] Kiribati signed a fishery agreement with the Soviet Union in August this year, despite the fact that no diplomatic relations exist between the two countries. Kiribati has thus become the center of world attention. According to the agreement, which will be effective for 1 year, the USSR will pay 2.4 million Australian dollars, roughly 400 million yen, in fishing fees, and 16 Soviet fishing boats will be allowed to operate within the 200-mile waters of the Kiribati.

However, the problem is whether the Soviet Union, which has almost no experience or technical capability in bonito and tuna fishing in the area, one of the best fishing grounds in the world, signed the agreement for genuine fishing purposes, or for collecting intelligence from signals transmitted by American submarines and monitoring their movements from its ships disguised as fishing boats. Consequently, the agreement became a major controversial issue in the Kiribati parliament.

There are no political parties in Kiribati, but 36 parliamentarians have been actively debating the issue. According to the minutes of the parliamentary session just concluded, parliamentarians opposing the agreement questioned the government for 4 days, stating that Kiribati may become a second Afghanistan in the future.

In this connection, we interviewed President Tabai on the reason for the signing of the agreement and its background.

[Begin Tabai recording in English] The deal we are entering ourselves is purely a trade and commercial deal. We see the deal is in our interest, and that in many ways, sir, demonstrates our determination to earn income so that we can be on our own. You see that ambition is very much part of the Government's strategy. [end recording]

[Okamoto] Meanwhile, Japan is about to involve itself deeply in Kiribati's affairs, as Kiribati is being engulfed in the swirls of superpower global strategy. Currently, the political center of Bairiki and the economic and industrial center of Batio are linked by a small ferry, which makes several runs daily. When the tide is out, however, they are connected by land, and one can see people picking shells or riding motorbikes from one side to the other. A project to build a 3.4-kilometer road for this section will start next year with Japan's assistance, to ensure traffic even at times of high tide. Japan's assistance appears to be prompted by a political motive, as well as its desire to help Kiribati improve its living conditions -- that is, to drive a wedge between Kiribati and the Soviet Union.

Kiribati exhausted its phosphate resources 6 years ago, losing half its revenue source as a result. The 400 million yen in fishing fees paid by the Soviet Union this year must have been quite helpful to Kiribati in its financial plight. The next question is what Kiribati will do after the fishing agreement expires in October next year.

[Begin Tabi recording in English] It is hard to foresee the future, but one thing I can say is that, if the Soviets want to continue the agreement, then we will have to negotiate, and if the terms are right and proper, and we see that they are in our national interest, I don't see why we should not extend the agreement.

But we have no intention to be involved in superpower conflicts. Our immediate aim is very simple. It is to try and uplift the standard of our people. [end recording]

[Kimura] The conclusion of the fishing agreement with the Soviet Union has generated far-reaching reverberations. The United States, New Zealand, and even China, which are all afraid of an increase in Soviet influence, have proposed a new round of assistance to Kiribati. In the final analysis, one may call the Kiribati action a show of wisdom by a lesser nation, taking advantage of the global strategy of the two superpowers, the United States and the Soviet Union.

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